

Pella School History

1847 - 1980





Pella

School History

1847 to 1980

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History is the little things as well
as the big things. History is more
than a list of dates.

— Cyrenus Cole (1863 to 1939,
PHS Class of 1881) *A History of
the People of Iowa*, Torch
Press, Cedar Rapids, 1921

Dedicated to the students and teachers
of the Pella School District
past, present and future.

Written 1978 to 1980
By Emma Lou Heusinkveld

Pella School History Committee:

Emma Lou Heusinkveld
J. B. Dahm
Richard (Babe) Tysseling
C. C. (Buck) Buerkens
Mart Heerema

Preface

A great deal has happened in schools in Pella since one of the first immigrants invited some of the children who lived near him to go to his house to learn a little bit of Readin' Writin' and 'Rithmetic. Much of what happened is a matter of official record. In the school offices are files giving information about teachers, curriculums, policies and students who have come and gone through the classrooms.

The superintendent's office has thick books of the minutes of board meetings beginning with 1873. There are lists of all the teachers who have taught here, copies of open house programs, books of rules and policies, some still in effect, some long forgotten. There are records of school bus purchases and amounts of gasoline used to transport students, and files containing information used to convince people of the surrounding rural school districts that they should become a part of the reorganized Pella Community School District. There are rule books going back to 1890 and curriculums for many decades.

The athletic director has record books from 1926. In the high school store room, Pella Carnegie Viersen Library and many homes are copies of the school yearbooks since the first one in 1934. In scrapbooks and photograph albums in homes throughout the area are countless mementoes of school days.

The archives at Central College contain school programs and history books about Pella which include information about the Pella schools. Files of the Pella Chronicle and the Pella Blad contain many stories about activities in the Pella schools.

Many records of activities in the rural schools, which later became part of the Pella Community school district, are available.

Offices of the Pella Christian schools and the Christian Opportunity Center have information that pertains to the history of the schools in Pella. Catalogues of Central College include names of courses that refer to student teaching in the Pella schools. Offices of the Iowa Department of Public Instruction in Des Moines have long lists of laws which have affected this school district, such as regulations about when to raise the flag, how much money a teacher should be paid and what should be taught in the schools of Iowa.

Another rich source of material is the people of the area. They remember going to rural school and watching the present Community Center being built when it was the most modern high school in the county. They knew Miss Lillie Verson who taught from 1876 to 1928.

All of these records and these people are sources for a history of the Pella Community School district.

In 1978, as an outgrowth of the historical awareness that developed during the Bi-Centennial year of 1976, the Pella school board appointed a committee to start a project to write a history from all of these sources. On the committee were Richard Babe Tysseling, former mayor of Pella, graduate of Pella High School in 1928; Martin Heerema, Class of 1928, board member from 1951 to 1958 when school reorganization was the big issue; C.C. (Buck) Buerkens, the only native of Pella who ever served as superintendent of the Pella schools,

and J.B. Dahm, member of the school board from 1964 to 1979, and president for four years.

These men started the project. They gave me the materials and ideas they had gathered and started me on the book. What an assignment! And how many questions to be answered!

Of all of that material, what should I use? Whom should I believe when sources disagree? When should I quit gathering material? What style of writing would be best? From all of that material, what should I include?

Who is the audience for the book? Should it be designed for the old-timers who want to reminisce about their school days? Is the book directed toward the students of today? Is a book about the history of the Pella school district since 1847 designed for historians of the future who will want to check on how things used to be? My answer to those questions has varied. I hope that many people will find the book helpful and entertaining. I apologize for any errors. I have used words such as "apparently" and "there is evidence that" when I have included some material. The committee has been helpful and supportive, but I shall take the credit or blame for what is included.

The English teacher element in my personality feels embarrassed about the lack of specific footnotes. I have included comments with each section of the book about the source of the

material. I'll leave it to future writers to use the scholarly approach with footnotes.

And there is plenty of material for future writers. Those sources, such as school board minutes, athletic record books, scrapbooks and newspaper files have a great deal of interesting material that is not included in this book. Pella is full of people with interesting memories about Pella schools.

The list of "Thank you's" should be long, but it is impossible to list everyone who, knowingly or unknowingly, gave some information or ideas for the book. Many people helped by reading some of the material and making suggestions.

The "Thank you" list includes these names: C.C. Buerkens, Babe Tysseling, Martin Heerema, and J.B. Dahm (members of the original committee), Jane Gosselink, Martha Lautenbach, Nelle Vander Linden, Henrietta Ver Heul, Dena Ver Steeg, Barbara Vander Werff, Al De Wild, Lenora Hettinga, Alice Lammers, Margaret Ver Steeg, Jean Wilkins, Paula Heusinkveld, Wilma Rempe, Nola Vander Streek, Armour Boot, Gradus Schakel, George Heusinkveld and Orville Dunkin.

Emma Lou Heusinkveld
English and Journalism teacher
at Pella High School, 1964 to 1978



THE COMMITTEE which worked on *History of Pella Schools, 1847 to 1980* examines some of the old school board records in the board office. Left to right are Babe Tysseling, Martin Heerema, Emma Lou Heusinkveld, J. B. Dahm and C. C. Buerkens.

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Overview

One and a Third Centuries

The history of Pella Community School district is woven from many threads and strands. Some are short, some are long; they begin and end at different times. The original strand of Pella school history reaches back to Holland in the 1840's when the people who attended Dominie Henry P. Scholte's church began talking about the possibility of immigrating to another country. A main reason for their interest in immigration was their desire to have some control over the way their children were educated.

As the group of citizens of Holland made their plans to immigrate, school plans were important. By the time they landed in the United States in 1847, they had a formal, written plan of operation for the schools in their new colony, even though they did not yet know that the site for their new home would be Iowa. The constitution for the Netherland Association for Emigration to the United States of North America provided that a home for a teacher as well as a schoolhouse would be built "in order that after arrival the children may soon be kept busy."

The colonists arrived in Pella in August, and that fall, James Muntingh and Isaac Overkamp set up schools in their log cabin homes near the square, and became the town's first school teachers. The children walked from sod huts, log cabins and homes built so hastily that the area was called "Strawtown." They usually wore clothing which they had brought with them from Holland, looking different than the children who were going to school in other parts of the sparsely-settled newly-formed state of Iowa. The teachers used slates and a few books gathered up from citizens of the new settlement. The curriculum centered on reading, writing and arithmetic plus a little music. Since all but one of the children spoke very little English, the teaching was done in Dutch, and English was taught as a foreign language.

Several teachers taught classes in their log cabin homes at various times during the first few years of Pella's history. Addresses of the sites include 900 Independence Street, 805 East First Street, 900 Main Street, and the east portion of 836 Main Street.

In December, 1847, a group of the colonists rode horses to Des Moines to visit the Iowa legislature with a special request. The Iowa law required that a person live in the United States for at least five years before holding a public office. All except two of the American citizens who had sold land to the new Dutch residents had moved away. How could only two people hold all of the offices needed to run a town and a school system? Both houses of the Iowa legislature unanimously approved the bill to give special permission to the state's new Dutch residents to hold elections and fill the necessary offices from their own group.

The first election under the special dispensation was held in Dominie Scholte's house on the north side of the square on the first Monday of April, 1848. Dominie Scholte was elected school inspector. His duties included hiring teachers and supervising all schools in Lake Prairie Township in which Pella was located.

Isaac Overkamp was appointed as first teacher for the classes in the new building located in the middle of the

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Isaac Overkamp was appointed as first teacher for the classes in the new building located in the middle of the



IN 1848, no school had been built in the village of Pella, so the children went to classes in log cabin homes of the first teachers.

block west of the square. The building, called "The Barn Church" because of its resemblance to a barn, was used for church on Sundays and for school on weekdays. It was in the center of the block, a little northeast of the church at 824 Franklin.

Although the Dutch settlers had scattered throughout Lake Prairie township, for more than a year the log cabin schools in Pella and the school in the Barn Church were the only ones in the township. In November, 1848, the Skunk River district

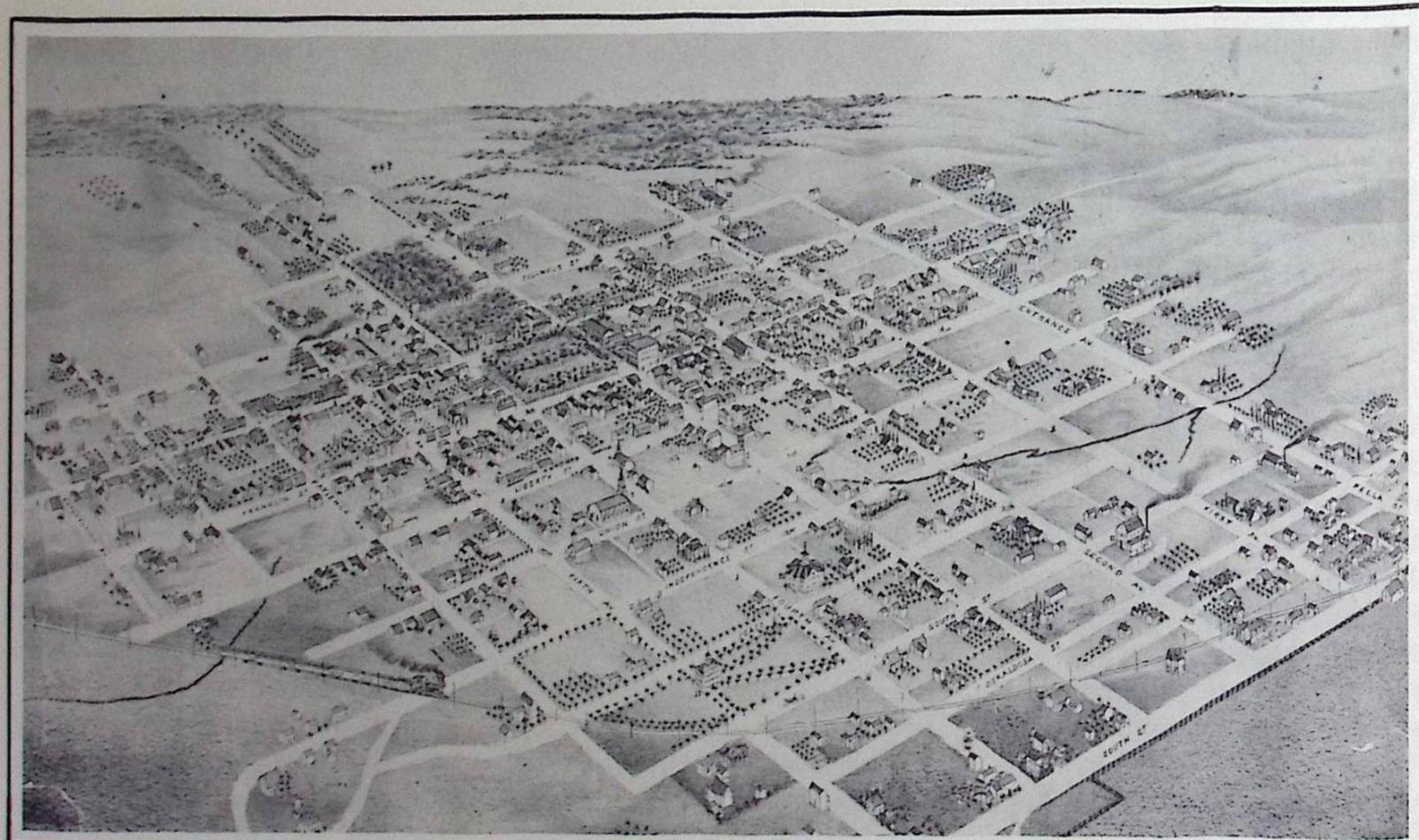
north of Pella completed construction of a school and a house for the teacher, Isaac Overkamp, and classes began there. Henry Hospers, who later led the migration from Pella to Sioux County, was the substitute teacher for both the new school and the one in Pella, apparently taught by James Muntingh.

During this period, Overkamp was conducting weekly catechism classes with attendance by children mandatory. Dominie Scholte held a weekly study session on the Book of Daniel which

was well attended by both children and adults.

In 1849, Benjamin Sherman moved to Pella from Zanesville, Ohio and began a private school in his log cabin on the square. It was called The English School because all classes were taught in English. In contrast to the schools run by the Dutch immigrants, he did not use corporal punishment. Hymn singing, dramatic productions and instruction in English were important aspects of his school during the three years that he operated it. His successors were John

BIRD'S EYE VIEW OF PELLA in the nineteenth century shows Webster School in the foreground.



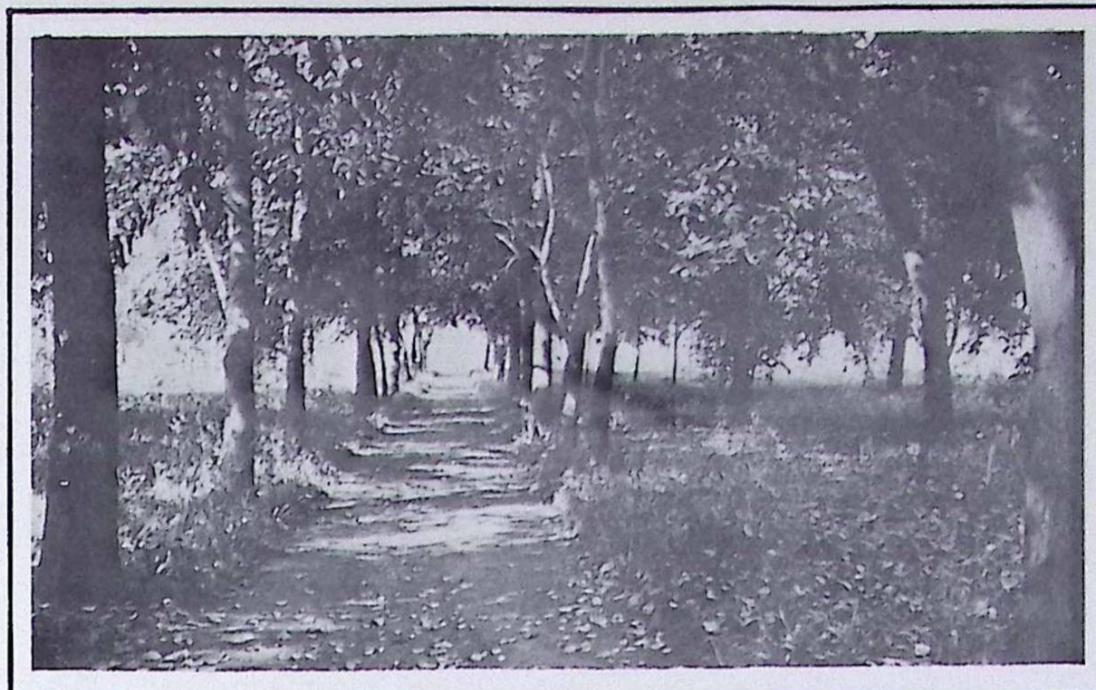
Stem followed by Louis Dwight and Miss Julia A. Tolman. The English School closed in 1855 after Central College Academy opened.

The first brick school in Pella was Park School, built in 1856. The school had only eight grades, and high school students went to the Central College Academy. The first superintendent of schools was hired in 1857.

Professor John S. Nollen, a native of Pella, wrote in 1892 about the teachers of the first decades:

"Teachers often lacked the more or less adequate preparation that is expected nowadays. Indeed, not too very long ago it was hard to find an American in these Western states who had not once turned his hand to teaching. Thus, one of the early teachers in Pella was really a dealer in horses, and taught school only during the dull season in his regular business. At that time, the local school board was the sole judge of the teachers' qualifications, and it is related that once, when the examining member of the board asked a candidate for the product of 16 times 16, the pedagogue, who really had no idea of what it was, objected strenuously to the question, because it was 'Way beyond the multiplication tables.' Again, when two would-be teachers of Holland descent were asked what 'Washington, D.C.' stood for, they were quite at a loss until one of them had a happy thought and sang out triumphantly 'Washington de Capital.'" (Nollen does not report whether or not these applicants were hired.)

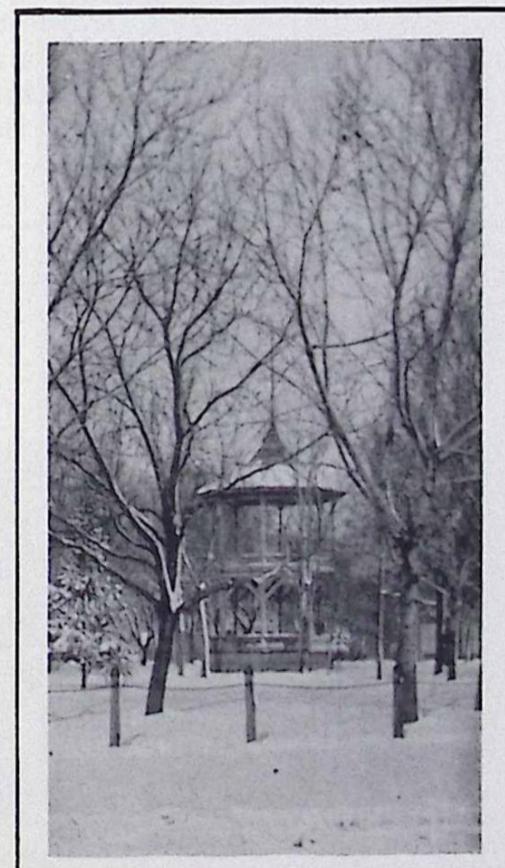
By 1861, there were nine schools in Lake Prairie township. The county superintendent of schools with offices at Knoxville was in charge of the rural schools and also kept a close watch on what was happening in the Pella school. Citizens of the town were discussing the



LINCOLN SCHOOL SITE in the nineteenth century was called Scholte Grove. It was the place where everyone went for the big Pella Golden Anniversary celebration in 1897.

idea of building a public high school.

When C.C. Cory was hired as superintendent in 1867, his goal was to start a high school. Pella High School became a reality in 1876 (the nation's Centennial year), when Webster school was completed and the second floor was designated for high school classes. The first class apparently graduated in 1876, 29 years after the first colonists arrived.

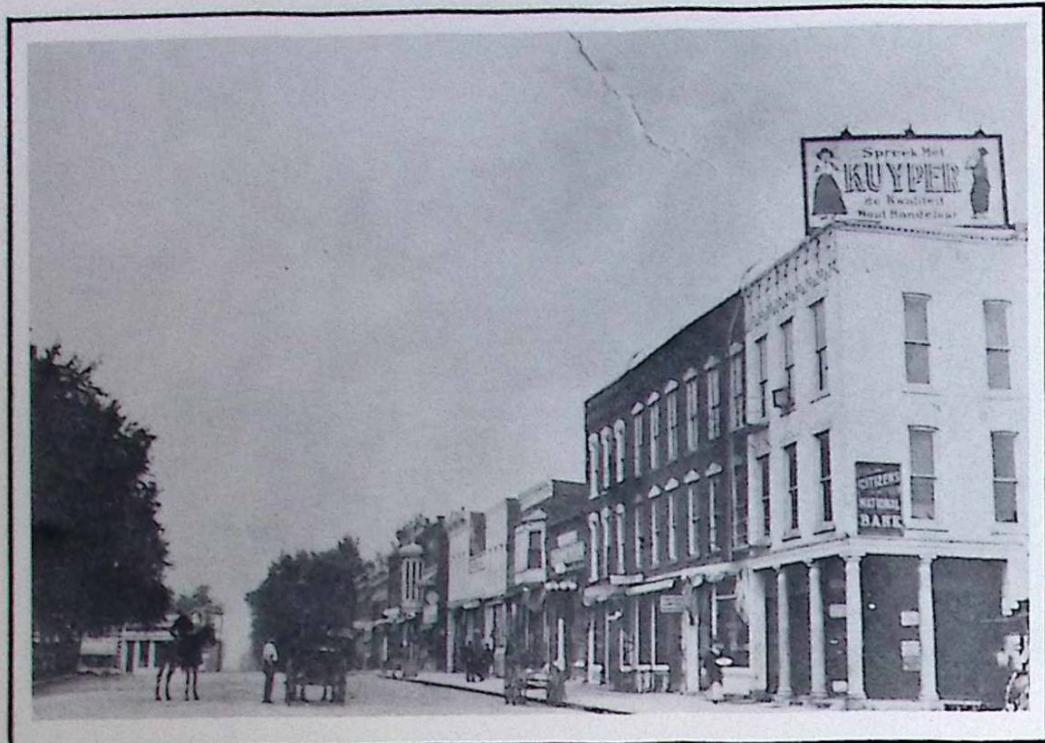


CENTRAL PARK ABOUT 1890 with a two-story bandstand where the fountain is now located.

The Pella School District was a little bigger than the town of Pella. In 1888, a school was built northwest of the town to serve children of farmers living in the area. It was 16 by 20 feet and cost \$200.

In 1889, only one of the schools, Webster, had an official name, so the school board voted to give names to the other schools. The new one was called Oak Grove, the one on the southwest edge of the square which everyone called "Old Brick" was officially named Park, and the little school near Webster was named Howell.

Fifteen teachers plus a supply or substitute teacher staffed these buildings. At Webster, were a superintendent, principal and assistant principal, all of whom taught high school classes; two teachers for grammar rooms, which was the term used for seventh and eighth grades; three teachers for intermediate which included grades four through six; and two primary teachers for third and fourth grades. The Howell building had first and second primary grades. Park school had four primary teachers for grades one through four, and Oak Grove had combination rooms for children from primary through intermediate



EAST SIDE OF THE SQUARE about 1890 has the same buildings that are there in 1980. The dirt road, the horses and the popcorn stand on the right side of the picture have disappeared.

which included grades one through six.

In 1900, the school population of Pella outgrew the facilities, and the school board rented some space from Central College. Some new threads which are a part of the present picture of Pella schools began to show as sports, more courses and some activities were added and the high school was accredited by the Iowa Department of Public Instruction.

In 1902, the voters of Pella approved a bond issue of \$15,000 for Lincoln school, the oldest school building now standing in Pella. A year later, an additional \$5,000 was voted for the school which was ready for classes in 1905.

That same year, Pella began kindergarten classes, many years before most Iowa schools had classes for children younger than first grade. Five-year-olds in the south part of town attended kindergarten in Howell, a little yellow frame building on the Webster school ground; those in the north half of the town went to the new Lincoln School.

In 1907, Oak Grove School closed, and people of the area requested transportation to Lin-

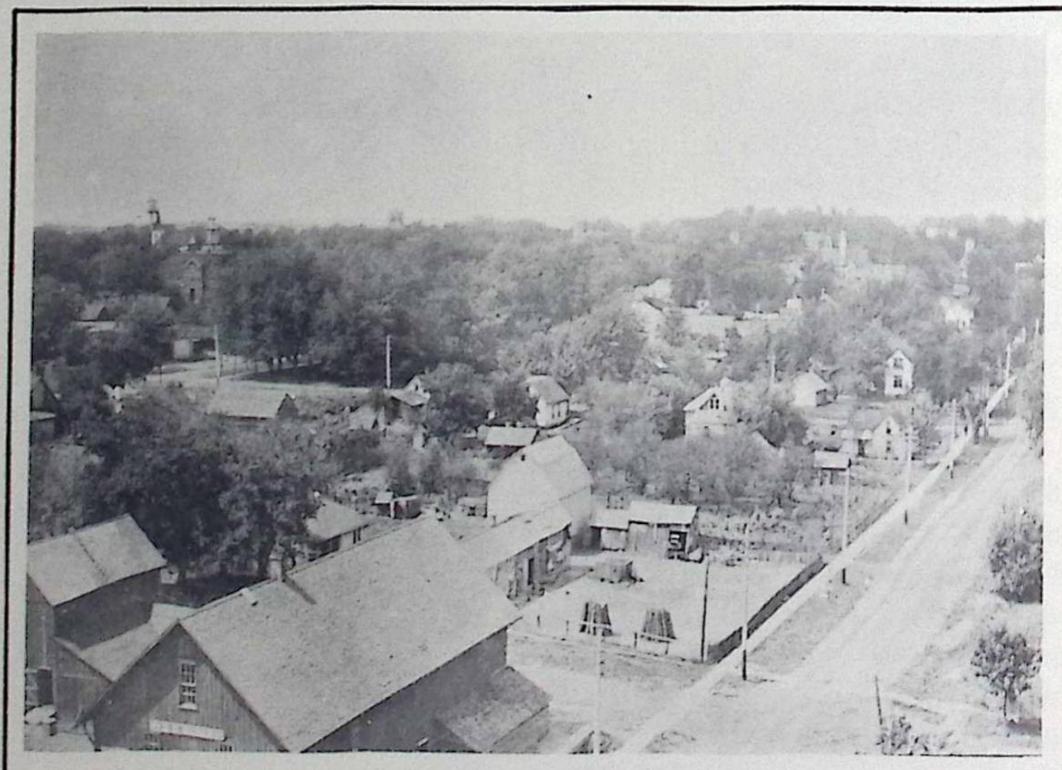
coln School for the children. Apparently, this horse-drawn vehicle was the first school bus in what is now the Pella Community School district.

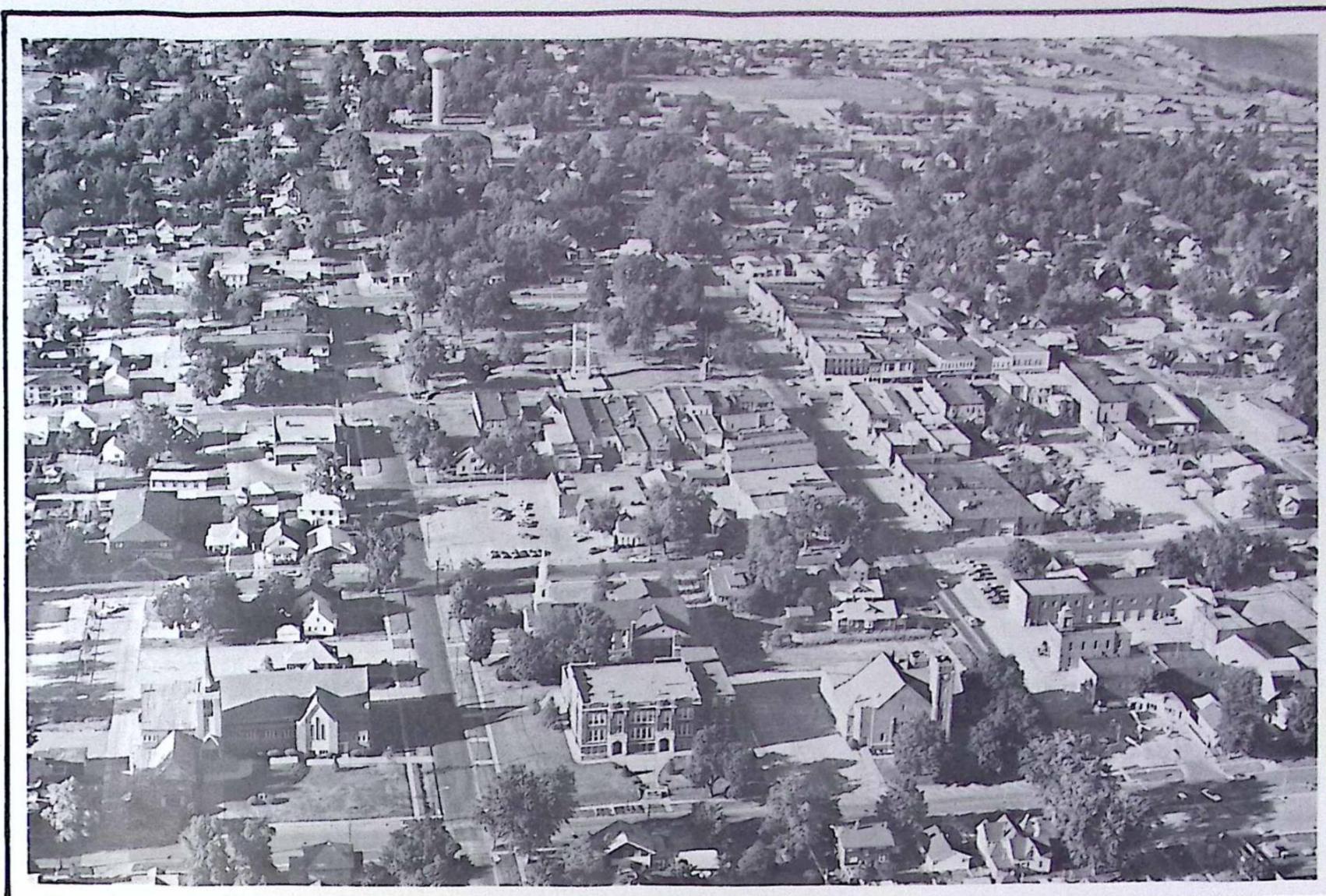
The thread that shows throughout Pella school history, a desire to have safe, modern schools, was present in 1911. The board replaced kerosene lamps in the schools with electric lights.

In the early 1900's there was talk about the need for a new high school building, but it took a while to convince the voters. A bond election was held in 1912, apparently the town's first school bond election that failed. In 1914, another bond election was held which carried. The official count shows that 425 men voted "yes" and 145 men voted "no," while 325 women voted "yes" and 36 women voted "no." The ballot counters knew these figures because the men voted on white ballots and the women had green ones. In the fall of 1915, classes began in the new high school.

In 1928, the enrollment at Pella High School increased because the academy at Central College closed. But it still fell far short of having all of the high school age people of the community in class. A large percentage of the people felt that an eighth grade education was sufficient. Until the late 1930's, the superintendent, the high school principal and many of the teachers spent a portion of each summer visiting eighth grade graduates and their parents,

PELLA IN THE 1890's. The streets were unpaved, but new poles were ready for electric wires. Towers at the left are Central College and Webster School. Tower on the skyline near the center of the picture is the wooden water tower in West Market Park. The photographer was on the top of the old elevator.





IN THE 1970's, Pella Middle School (now the Community Center) is in the foreground. Lincoln School is almost hidden by trees near the water tower.

trying to convince them that the young people needed more schooling.

One of the things which made some teenagers wonder about going on to high school was the initiation of freshmen. For the first quarter of this century, the freshmen often were paddled by upperclassmen who, with wooden paddles, lined up at the edge of the school ground to welcome the new high school students. Even in the 1940's seniors often required freshmen to carry their books for them.

The threads of specialization gradually entered the story of the Pella schools. Until the 1920's each elementary school teacher was in charge of all of the work done in her classroom. Then music, art and physical training supervisors were hired to help the teachers plan the work in these specialized fields. There were no special rooms for these subjects.



IN 1979, Pella Middle School, high school, superintendent's office, bus garage, athletic fields and community indoor swimming pool, along with Faith Christian Reformed Church and homes are located on what was farmland until 1961 when ground was broken for the high school.

The high school curriculum was enlarged during the 1930's when vocational agriculture, vocational homemaking and commercial subjects were added. Offered later were French, Spanish, driver education, drafting, journalism and other English classes, speech, music appreciation and more science, shop, math, social studies and business classes.

During these years, the number of students from the rural areas attending the Pella schools gradually increased. In 1908, the school had two students from rural schools outside of the Pella Independent School district, paying tuition to attend school. In 1947, there were 128 tuition students which was 37 percent of the total number enrolled.

The desire of many rural people to have their children attend school in Pella plus the pressure put on them by the Iowa legislature brought about school reorganization. In 1958, residents of Pella and all or parts of 44 surrounding rural school districts voted to reorganize into the Pella Community School District.

New buildings or additions were constructed in 1961, 1966,

1969, 1974, 1976, 1977 and 1979. All were funded with money from the school house fund or from the sale of bonds. The school house fund comes from a small levy approved regularly by the voters, and the bonds were issued after approval by voters in special elections.

Only one special bond election failed to win approval of the voters after the failure of the 1912 bond proposal. That was a proposal for a new junior high and indoor swimming pool in October 1974. Another bond election for the junior high carried in March 1976. The indoor swimming pool, owned by the city and used by the children in both Christian and public schools, was a gift from the Vermeer Foundation.

In 1980, 133 years after the first school started in Pella, 1,510 children from Pella and the surrounding area are attending classes in four elementary schools, a new middle school and a high school. Most of them ride to their classes; some travel on one of the 15 school buses; some ride on mo-peds, bicycles or motorcycles, and some drive their own cars. They live in a variety

of housing: apartments, duplexes, trailers and homes built from 1860 to 1979. They wear clothing such as would be seen in schools anywhere in the United States. The staff of 95 teachers, all properly certified by the Department of Public Instruction of the State of Iowa, teach in a school plant worth \$7,569,460, using television, movie projectors, tape recorders, cassettes, overhead projectors, record players, newspapers, magazines, library books, textbooks and reference books.

The threads that have been woven together to make Pella Community School District during the period of one and a third centuries are more than numbers, dates and addresses of buildings. The history of a school is an account of who was there and what they did. Each thread of the history begins and ends at a different time. The remainder of this book follows the various threads of the story to tell a partial history of the Pella Community School District.

SOURCES for information in this section are listed in bibliography at the end of the book.



KIDS STILL GO TO SCHOOL IN PELLA, whether it is riding on a moped to a big, brick building, or walking along muddy paths to a log cabin as the children did in 1848.

Buildings

From Logs to Brick and Steel

Oak Grove and Howell Schools Almost Forgotten

Two schools that were in the Pella school district in the nineteenth century have almost disappeared from the memory of anyone now living in Pella. They were Oak Grove and Howell.

Apparently, the two schools were used only for the lower primary grades. Howell School was torn down or moved in 1905 when the first Lincoln building was occupied. Oak Grove was closed earlier, probably in the 1890's.

Howell was described in school board minutes of July 24, 1889, as "the frame building on Lot No. 8, Block No. 79." This is the middle of the 700 block on Peace Street where Webster School now stands. Howell also was the name of a railroad station located south of Pella, but apparently there is no connection between the railroad station and the school.

Oak Grove School was on land bought from A. Roorda, one mile north of the present location of the Ford garage west of Pella. The farm, owned by his descendants, is marked as a Century Farm because it has been in the same family for more than a hundred years.

The school house was on the west side of the road, on a hill. After it was closed, it was used as a barn, then it was moved a short distance northeast of its original site to be closer to the road. In 1912, it was remodeled into a home for Wigert Roorda and his bride. Wigert, who was



OAK GROVE SCHOOL, a part of the Pella School system in 1888.



PARK SCHOOL or "Old Brick" served the community for almost half a century standing near the southwest corner of Central Park.



AFTER THE SCHOOL CHILDREN MOVED OUT, Park School became a livery stable until Pella people no longer needed that service. It housed a feed business for a while then stood empty until it was torn down to make way for the post office.

born in 1885, attended the school until he finished fourth grade about 1895 which probably was the time that it closed and children from the area were sent to school in Pella.

The little schoolhouse has been through several remodeling projects and has been the home of two of Wigert's sons, Paul and Walter, at various times. Now, his grandson, Alan Roorda, and his family live in a home which uses the former Oak Grove school for a living room.

Park School On Post Office Site

Eight years after the first caravan of Dutch immigrants arrived in Pella, the town had 300 inhabitants and a new red brick school. It was near the southwest corner of Central Park where the wide driveway west of the post office is now and extended onto the area now numbered 821 Franklin.

The building, two stories with one room on each floor, was one of the few "graded" schools in the State of Iowa. Usually, a child's reading proficiency determined which grade he was in. The teachers taught the three R's plus a little history, geography and music.

Many of the children wore wooden shoes to school, and those who had classes on the first floor remembered for many years the noise made by the boys and girls upstairs.

The interior of the building was of rough lumber. Furnishings included blackboards, pot-belly stoves and desks with inkwells. Kerosene lamps were attached to the walls of each room.

Facing Franklin Street were double doors which were barred after school hours. Later the building was enlarged, and there were two rooms on each floor.

In front of the building was a well, a flagpole and a boardwalk; east of it was a playground covered with cinders; behind the school were privies, one for boys, and one for girls. The street was unpaved.

The school was one of the few brick schools in the county and acquired the nickname, "Old Brick," although the school board officially named it Park School in 1889.

James A. Ver Ploegh, who was a first grader at the school in 1893, wrote:

The first grade teacher in those days had to be a superior being. In addition to being proficient in starting us off in the Three R's and being a nurse, she had to be able to understand all manner of unknown tongues and to be able to translate them into English.

There were children who spoke a variety of Dutch dialects. Ver Ploegh wrote:

To economize, the school

board bought steam coal with which to feed the old pot-bellied stove. This was carried in buckets by the janitor into the building before or after school hours and dumped into the wooden bins. It would raise clouds of dust. Sometimes after a shovelful or two of the fine coal was placed in the stove it would just stand there and pout for a while. All of a sudden there would be a big "whoof". The door of the stove would fly open and brimstone would belch out. Our mothers would send us to school in the morning with clean faces, hands and clothes, but when closing time came, we would be almost as black as the miners who had mined the coal.

In 1904, when Lincoln School was ready for use, the children gathered up their books and marched together up Broadway to the new school, the children of each class walking with their teacher while many of the townspeople stood along the street watching the historic occasion.

The old school was sold to a man who knocked out the partitions and made it into a feed barn. Upstairs, he stored hay, and downstairs he took care of horses while their owners were doing their shopping in the Pella stores. A millinery shop was built on the old playground on the corner where the east end of the post office and the lawn are now.

After the business of feeding horses of Pella shoppers became unprofitable, the building was used as a hog sale barn, then it stood empty for several years. At one time, a man who wanted to convert the old school into a tavern caused a controversy among people who couldn't bear to think of a school building becoming a tavern. Finally, in 1937, Pella's first brick school was torn down

to make room for the present post office.

Ver Ploeg wrote:

There is now nothing to mark the place where Old Brick stood. I don't know how others felt, but it made me feel rather sad when it finally had outlived its purposes as a Temple of Learning and was used for a livery stable. It seemed like such an ignoble end. I could almost feel it reproaching me whenever I passed it. But such is the way of life. New and better things have to come, and the Old Brick had to step out to make room.

Webster School

Old and New

In the Centennial year of the United States, 29 years after the first log cabin school

opened in Pella, the school district built Webster School at the corner of Broadway and Peace Street. It was a tall two-story building of red brick trimmed with white limestone and topped by a bell tower.* There were wide double doors on both the north and the south sides and tall, narrow windows.

The school and its surrounding yard and board walks occupied the southwest quarter of the block. The block was divided by an alley running north and south with the Baptist church on the northwest quarter, a Methodist church on the southeast corner, and houses on the remainder of the block.

In his bi-ennial report to the State Superintendent of Public Instruction on January 1, 1878, the Marion County superintendent of schools:

Pella has a two-story brick building containing eight

* Bell now in steeple of 2nd Reformed Church. Original clapper stolen as a prank and never recovered.



HALF THE KIDS IN TOWN were hanging out of the windows or sitting and standing around in front of Webster School for the photographer at the turn of the century.



"ONE OF THE MOST MODERN SCHOOLS IN IOWA" was a term applied to both of these buildings at different times.

large rooms, a library, and spacious hall, through which egress is made quietly and orderly. The heating is done by a furnace, and the furniture is of the latest and most approved style. The principal of the school is enthusiastic in his work and every suggestion he makes is carried out by the school

board; nothing is wanting. The entire cost is \$25,000.

Cyrenus Cole, a member of the PHS Class of 1881, wrote in his book **I Remember, I Remember**, published in 1936:

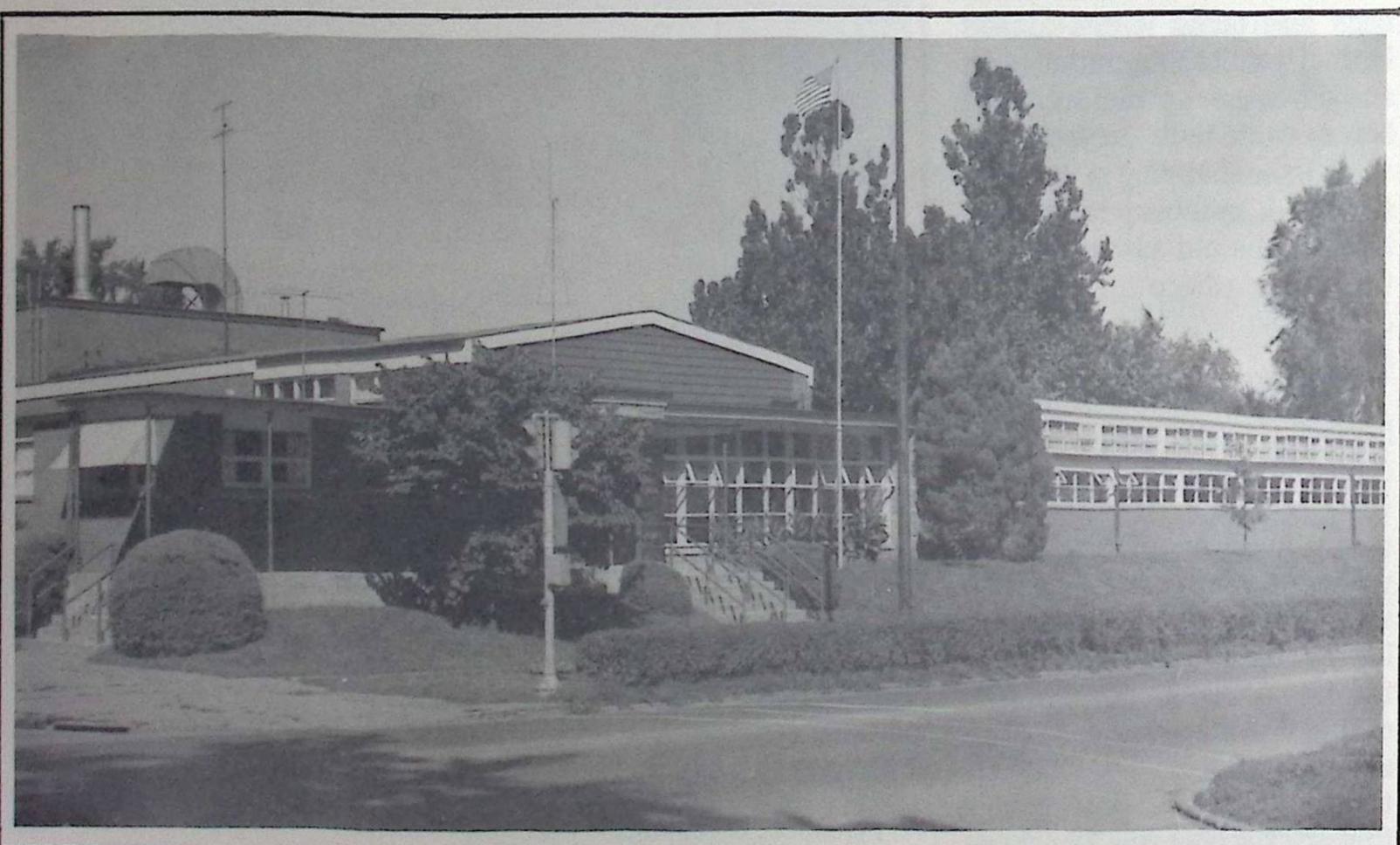
We did not realize it then, but the truth is we were living in the dawn of a new era.

NEW WEBSTER is the popular name for this building, even though children moved into it more than a quarter of a century ago in April, 1952.

In 1876 (thus 11 years after the close of the Civil War) when a new schoolhouse was opened in Pella, many came to see what was then a new heating system. Through iron pipes, heat in the form of steam, was carried to every nook and corner of the building. Instead of sending two boys out to bring in a bucket of coal, the teacher turned a knob and presto! the heat came snapping and crackling through the pipes. 'What next?' the old men asked, almost bewildered. It was a fine new brick structure, erected at a cost of \$20,000 and they named it in honor of a great American — Daniel Webster.

At first the upper floor was used for the high school plus seventh and eighth grades, and lower grades were on the first floor. During the lifetime of the school, various grades used the rooms, from kindergarteners through high school students.

About 1910, flush toilets were installed in the basement, and





IN 1914, LINCOLN SCHOOL had classrooms for most of the grade school children of Pella.

the outdoor toilets on the north side of the school yard were torn down. About the same time, a portion of the basement was remodeled as a dressing room for athletic teams. The boys (no girls were participating in sports then) used a window to get in and out of the room.

A history of Marion County published in 1881 described Webster School as "a magnificent new brick structure," but when John LaGrange Yourd wrote of the same building in 1949, he described the worn stairs as a hazard, the ventilation as poor, and the lighting as deficient, concluding:

This building is very old, non-fire resistant, is not expandible, the lighting is poor, ventilation inadequate, basement room dingy, and toilet

facilities sub-standard. The building is rated poor.

In 1949, by an 81 percent majority, the taxpayers approved a bond issue for \$200,000, the school board bought the southeast quarter of the block, and the children of Webster school began watching a new school go up. Money in the schoolhouse fund was added to the bond money to pay the final bills for the school, totaling \$242,996.97.

The Des Moines Register on September 2, 1951, reported:

In this conservative, tradition-loving Dutch community, one of the most modern and advanced public grade schools ever built in Iowa is now nearing completion.

Hundreds of motorists go-

ing through town on heavily-traveled Highway 163 which passes the school slow down, or stop, to study this new type school building.

A front-page story in the Oskaloosa Daily Herald on April 5, 1952, said:

Friday was moving day for students in Pella's Webster grade school.

Some 215 pupils, 11 teachers and Principal Bob Robinson left a 76-year-old building, and went into a new \$250,000 structure—probably the most modern grade school in Iowa.

They didn't have far to move, because the end of one wing of the new structure is only about 10 feet away from the old building.

The new building had a junior high wing, with four classrooms, multi-purpose room for hot lunch and physical education classes, and seven classrooms for elementary grades and kindergarten. The old Webster School was torn down, and the basement was filled with dirt to become a part of the playground for the new school.

In 1980, the school is used for children from kindergarten through fifth grades.

Lincoln School

New in 1904

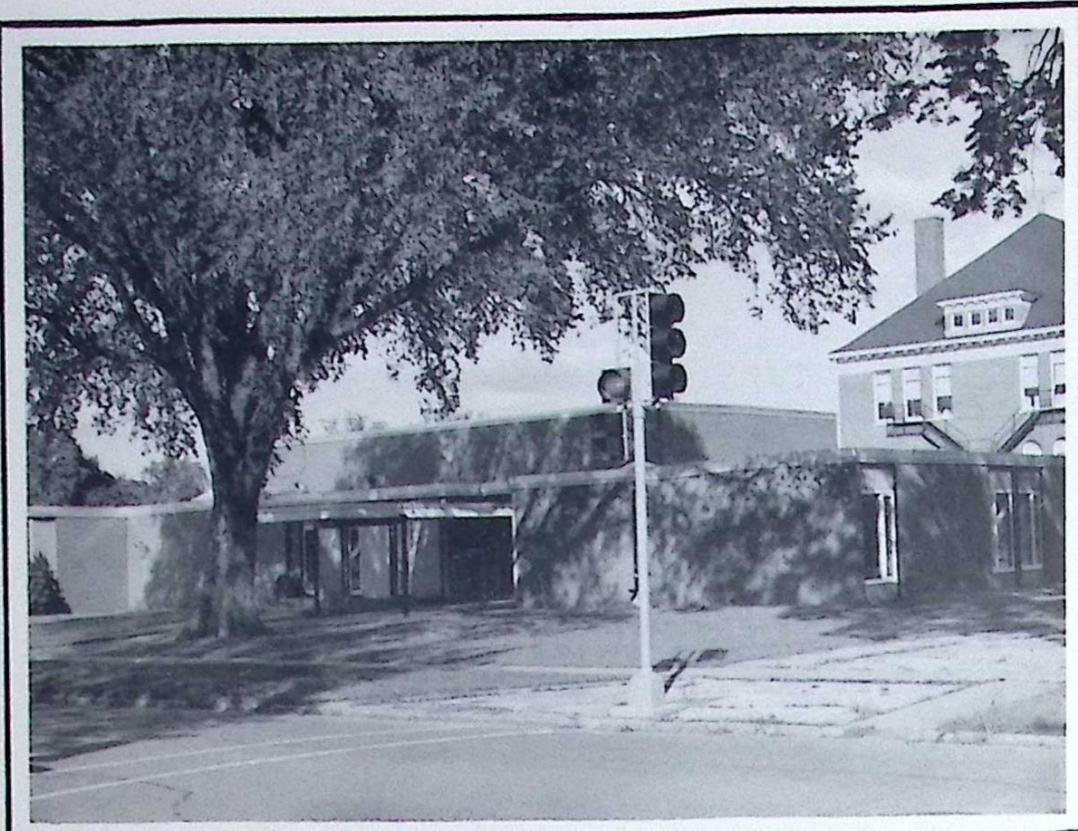
Lincoln School was built in 1904 on the north side of the 700 block of Lincoln Street at a cost of \$22,250. Lincoln Street was later closed between Main Street and Broadway. When the building was ready for the children to move into from the old Park School, they gathered up their books and, with their teachers, marched along the wooden sidewalks on Broadway to their new building.

Pupils and people of Pella all were proud of their new building, probably the first public building in Pella to have indoor plumbing, certainly the first school to have such facilities. However, when John L. Yourd wrote a description of the Pella schools in 1949, he was critical of Lincoln. He wrote:

The school is adjacent to dwellings and a commercial garage...behind the garage is a disposal heap of auto parts, cans, tires, etc.

He gave the building an overall rating of "fair," mostly because of poor lighting, wooden stairways, poor restrooms, small site, and lack of expansion potential.

Board members managed to



IN 1980, LINCOLN SCHOOL pupils still use portions of the original building, but most of them are in the newer parts of the school.

acquire property around the school and enlarge the site so that two additions could be built. Six classrooms, lunchroom, kitchen and multi-purpose room were added west of the original building in 1961. An addition containing six classrooms was added north of the new Lincoln building in 1966.

The building has always housed children in first through fifth grades. Most years, it has had kindergarteners and sixth graders also. For a few years in the 1920's, the seventh and eighth graders were at Lincoln.

In 1980, it has classes for children from kindergarten through fifth grades.

Pella High School Three Sites

Until 1876, anyone in Pella who wanted to go to high school enrolled in the academy connected with Central College.

In the Centennial year, the school board and C.C. Cory, who had been in charge of the Pella

schools since 1871, completed arrangements to teach high school level classes in the town's new Webster School. There is evidence that the school graduated its first class of seven people in 1876.

The first high school classes were held on the second floor of the new school at the corner of Peace Street and Broadway. Students from seventh grade through high school had classes upstairs, and lower grades were downstairs. As the enrollment grew, the high school gradually took over the entire second floor.

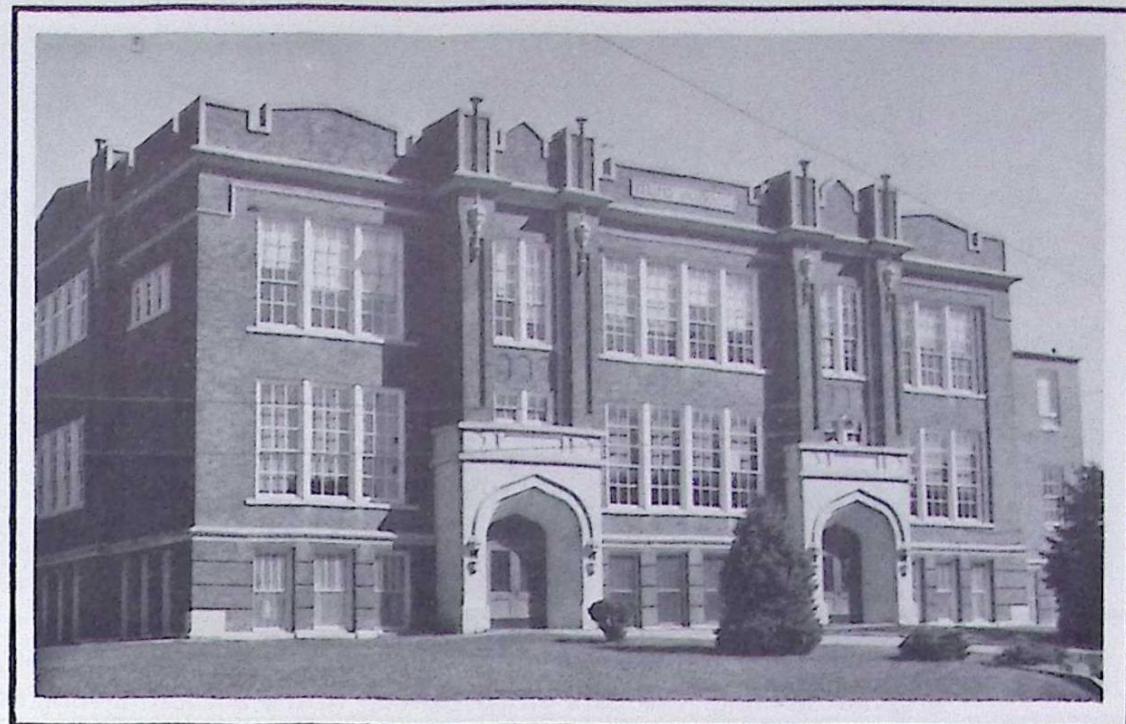
In 1912, the school board called an election to obtain permission to sell bonds to raise money to buy the site for a new high school. The vote failed by a margin of 140 to 278. In 1914, they tried again. This time, the male vote was 750 yes and 181 no. The money, \$4,000, was used to buy part of the Bousquet estate, lots 6 and 7, block 48 of the original town of Pella, located at the corner of Union Street and Broadway. Another bond election raised the rest of the money, and work began on the \$52,000 building. The new

gym was ready for basketball games in early 1915, and classes began in the new building the following September.

In 1936, people of Pella approved a bond issue of \$32,000 for an addition to the high school. The project cost \$70,000 with the difference between the bond issue and the total cost paid by the federal government under the WPA program. Works Progress Administration was a federal agency designed by President Franklin Roosevelt as a part of the NRA (National Recovery Act) to provide work for people during the Depression. The project increased the size of the gym and the auditorium and added a two-story wing to the east side of the building which provided space for manual training, domestic science and a commercial department. A third floor was added to the east wing in 1955.

When the school was first built, the auditorium also served as a study hall; later the study hall was in the 1935 addition. Homemaking rooms, agriculture rooms and shop were on the first floor. Commercial rooms, regular classrooms and the school library were on the second floor. Science rooms and a small classroom were on the top floor. The band moved around, sometimes in a classroom, some years in the gym, some years a block away at the fire station.

The school district paid off the last of its debt for school construction in 1942, and the board began thinking about building a new high school. They considered several sites, and John L. Yourd, a graduate student at State University of Iowa, used the problem of choosing a site for a new PHS as the subject for his master's thesis. His recommendations, in order of his preference were: (1) East of Oakwood cemetery between Lincoln and Monroe Streets. (2) North of Monroe Street and west of Main Street.



COMMUNITY CENTER at 712 Union Street, is the only building now standing in Pella which was constructed to be used as a public school but now is used for another purpose. Built as a high school in 1915, it became a junior high school in 1962.

(3) Northeast of Swimming Pool Park on East University. (4) South of Central College on University Street and west of West First Street. (5) The area west of the Rock Island tracks where the Central College football field is now located.

In November 1957, the school board paid \$27,500 for the 50-acre site now occupied by the high school, middle school, indoor swimming pool and athletic fields. The area was farm land. The closest streets were one-block-long East Eighth Street and Farmer Street, west of the ball park.

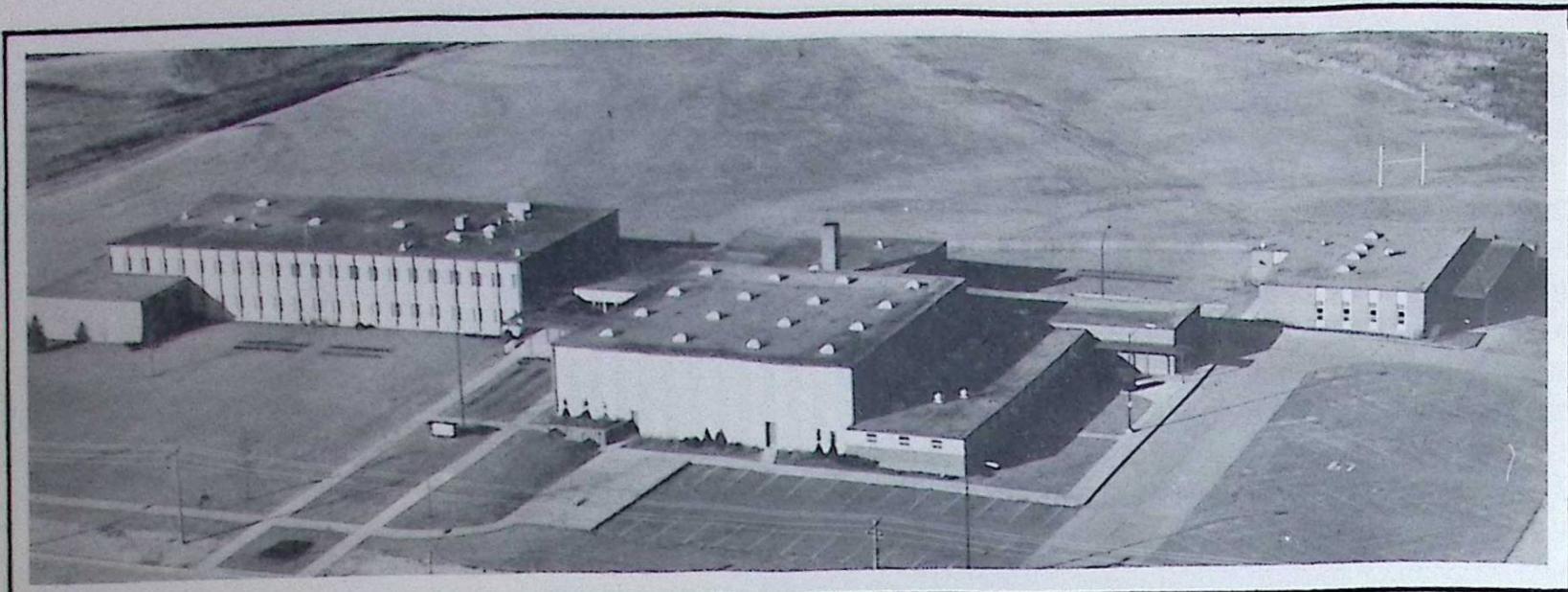
The following spring Pella, Otley and Leighton along with all or parts of 34 rural school districts, became the new Pella Community School district; a new school board was elected, and they began making plans for a new high school. On December 7, 1959, the voters of the new district approved a bond issue of \$1,000,000 for a new senior high, Lincoln School addition and grade school at Leighton.

On August 27, 1962, the \$800,000 school opened for classes even though everything wasn't finished. The street, parking area and sidewalks

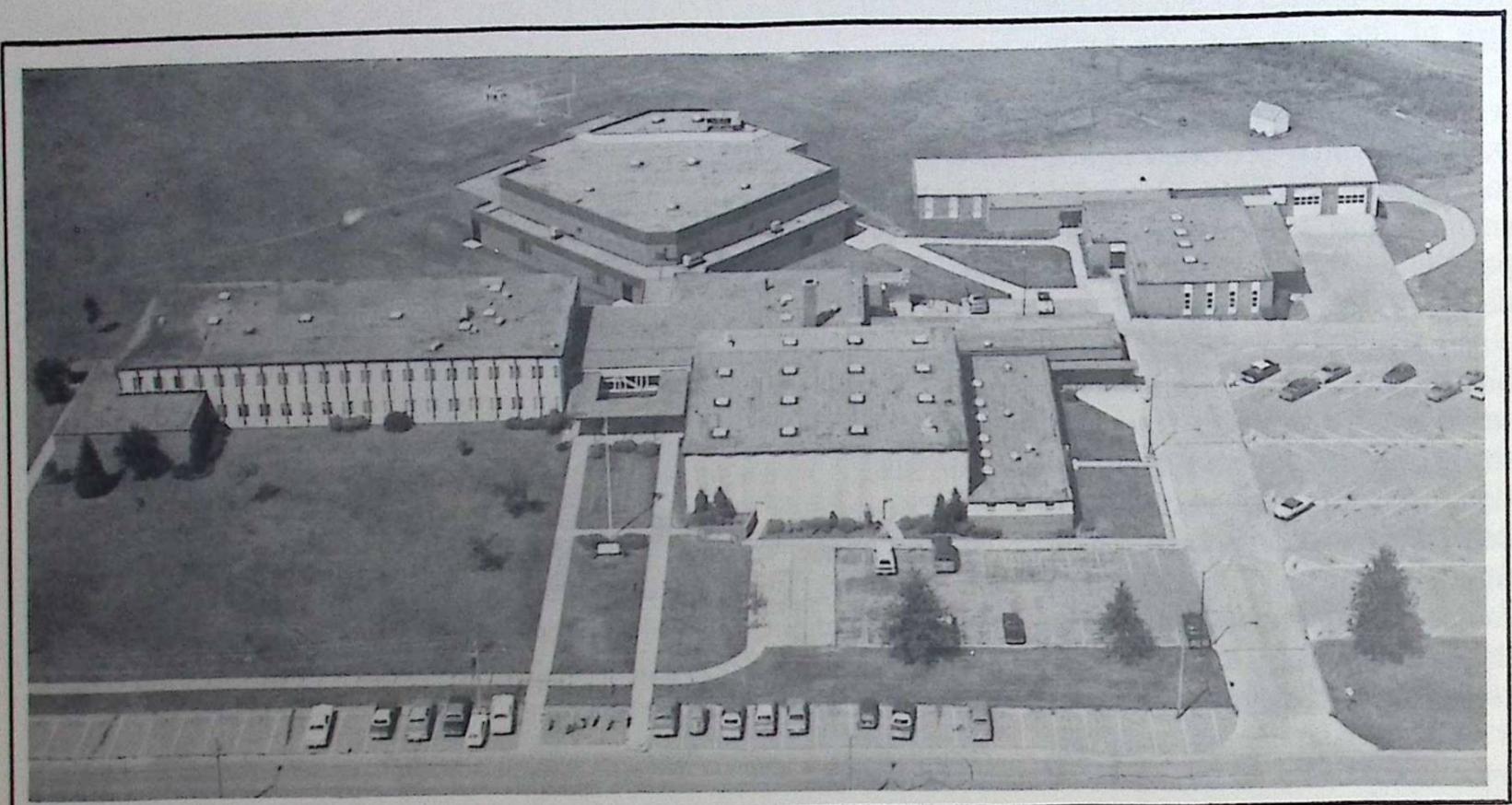
were not yet built, so teachers and school buses parked near the swimming pool, and everyone walked on boards laid in the mud to get to the biggest, fanciest school that had ever been built in Pella. The building, designed by Savage and Ver Ploeg, included library, academic wing, music wing, cafeteria, kitchen and gymnasium with a separate building housing the shop and an ag classroom.

In 1974 the shop building was enlarged by adding another shop, storage area, two classrooms, a large area for the art department, wrestling room and football dressing rooms. In 1977, the auditorium and stage with facilities for the band was added. In 1979, the corridor connecting the art/shops building with the auditorium was built.

The curriculum has changed during the 104 years that Pella has had a high school. Teachers and school board have not followed fads, but they have adopted new, proven ideas. History books about the county or the town published in 1887, 1902 and 1927 all have sections on Pella schools which emphasize how "modern" they were.



IN 1966, the trees and the grass were beginning to grow, but nothing had been added to the original building. The dark strips parallel to the academic wing and between the sidewalks west of the gym, and the dark square between the sidewalks near the street were tulip beds.



PELLA HIGH SCHOOL with the additions built since it was first occupied by students in the fall of 1962 looked like this in 1979.

On May 15, 1939, Pella High School was accredited by the North Central Accrediting Association. The accreditation was renewed each year on the basis of reports sent to the association. Later, the association adopted a system of sending a study team to the school periodically to check on how well it is educating its students and to make suggestions for improvements. The accrediting organization changed its name to North Central Association and continued to give its stamp

of approval to Pella High School when they studied it in 1968 and 1977.

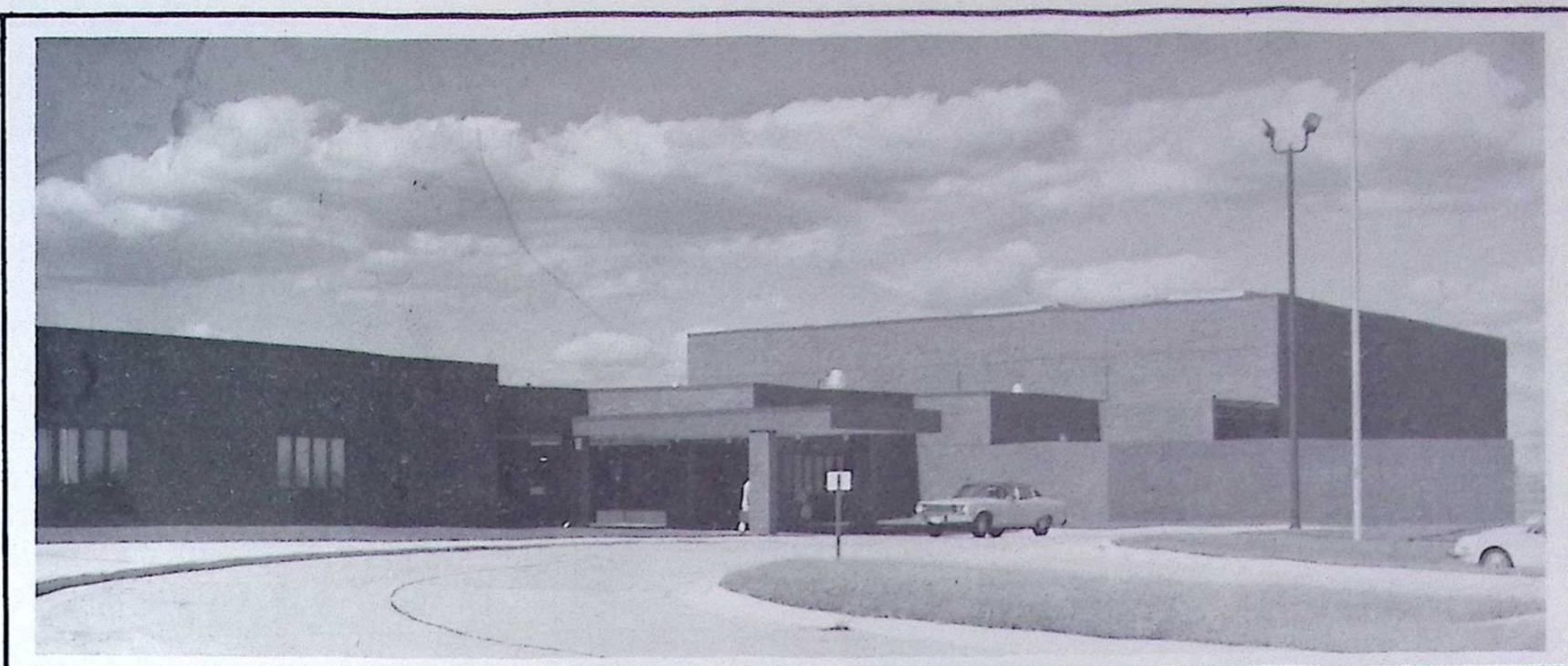
Junior High becomes Middle School

Sixth, seventh and eighth graders of Pella have attended school in many different places between 1857 when they went to the new Park School

and 1978 when they moved into the only school that Pella ever constructed just for them.

Park School was one of the few schools in Iowa at that time that divided the children by grades instead of having them in one-room schoolhouses. Children from the first through the eighth grades attended. No one had thought of the term "junior high."

When the first Webster School was built, the seventh and eighth graders attended it, along with the students in



MIDDLE SCHOOL on the east edge of Pella on what was an FFA corn field, has an academic wing on the left, gymnasium and industrial arts room on the right. The music wing is in the back.

Pella's newly-organized high school. Sixth graders attended Park or Webster, depending upon where they lived.

The sixth, seventh and eighth graders moved to the new Lincoln School in 1904. A graduation ceremony was held each spring for the eighth graders since many of them did not go on to high school.

In September 1915, when high school students moved into their new building (now the Community Center), the seventh and eighth graders moved into the old high school rooms on the second floor of Webster School. This was the first time that the term "junior high school" was used in Pella. The sixth graders remained at Lincoln until 1923 when they were moved to Webster.

In the spring of 1952, the seventh and eighth graders moved into the new Webster building. The east wing was called "Webster Junior High School" with classrooms, a music room and a science room for seventh and eighth graders. The sixth graders were divided between the elementary wing of the new building and Lincoln School.

When the rural areas around

Pella plus Leighton and Otley joined the Pella Independent School District to form the Pella Community School District in 1958, the seventh and eighth graders of the new district attended classes in Webster Junior High, Otley and Leighton. Sixth graders were scattered in Lincoln, Leighton, Otley and several rural schools.

As the school population increased, the junior high gradually expanded until in 1961 it filled all but three rooms in Webster School. There were 111 eighth graders and 119 seventh graders, including one class at Otley. The Baptist church basement was rented to house some of the elementary classes.

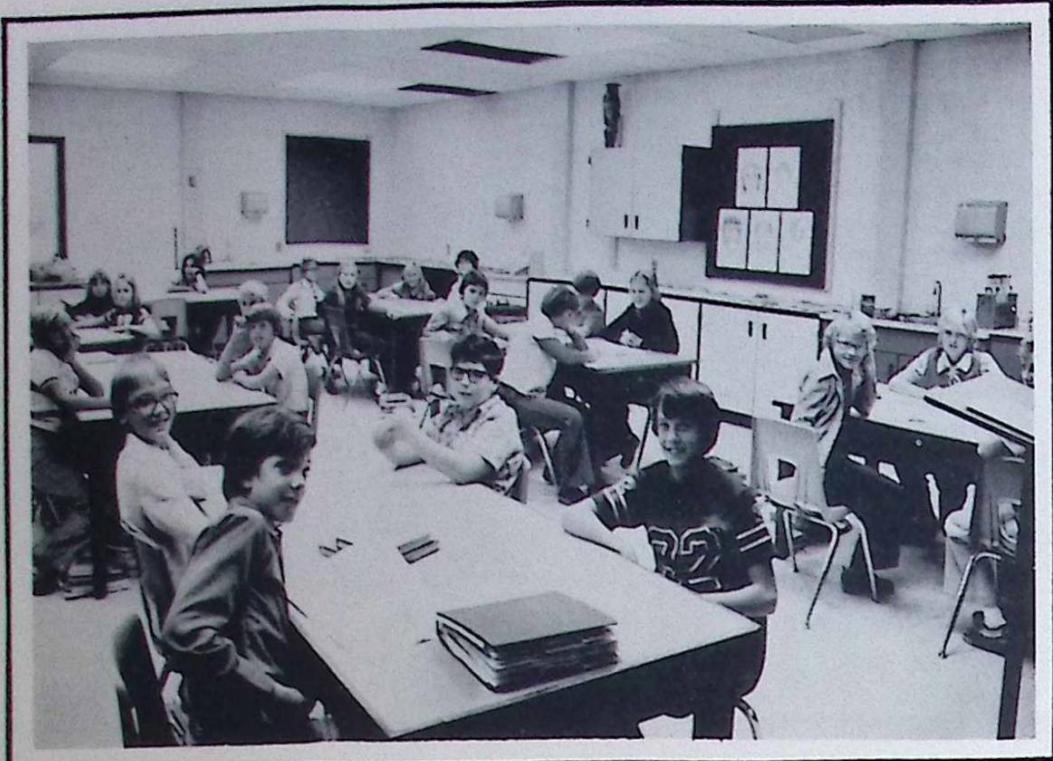
In 1962 when the high school again moved into a new building the seventh and eighth graders again moved into a place called "the old high school" (the building at 712 Union Street).

From 1962 until Middle School was ready in 1978, the sixth graders were assigned to many different places. Sometimes, they were in all of the elementary attendance centers, sometimes they were all bused to Pella to go to Webster or Lincoln, sometimes one or more

sections were assigned to Junior High. In the fall of 1970 a temporary metal classroom was set up north of Junior High, and all of the sixth graders moved into Junior High. The next year, teachers, board and pupils began using the term "Middle School" instead of "Junior High."

During the 65 years of its existence, the Junior High-Middle School has had a varied curriculum for its students. The subjects that have been taught are literature, language arts, English, reading, grammar, domestic science, home ec, shop, industrial arts, mechanical drawing, Spanish, penmanship, spelling, art, music, health, physical education, science and social studies including Iowa history, U.S. history, world history and civics.

At first, there were no organized sports for junior high students. Gradually, a sports program was added so that Middle School boys now engage in football, basketball, wrestling and track. Middle School girls may go out for track and basketball. Co-ed PE and a swimming program were added to the PE program in 1978.



ART CLASSES weren't even taught to Pella's first middle school age students; in 1978 the sixth graders sit in the room especially designed for art classes.

While the junior high was at Webster School, the high school students frequently invited the pupils to go to their building on Union street for assembly programs. The balcony of the auditorium was reserved for the junior high students.

After eighth grade graduation ceremonies were discontinued, parents of eighth graders began the custom of staging a big party for them in the school gym each spring. Another such party is being planned for 1980.

For several years on the last afternoon of school before the summer vacation began, the seventh and eighth graders had a Play Day. This included sports, contests, games and food. The event was discontinued when Junior High moved to the Union Street building.

The school had a good citizenship program to encourage and recognize cooperation, courtesy, honesty and leadership.

"The Hi-Teens" was a mimeographed school newspaper put out by Junior High students from the early 1960's until the 1970's. It was a monthly which sold for a few pennies and

reported on extra-curricular activities, game scores, what was happening in classes and who was mad at whom. There were interviews with teachers and new students, essays that had been written for an English class and, at the end of the year, short biographical sketches of each eighth grader.

Student Council began in 1962 and science fair about the same time. Junior High students enjoyed the assemblies with Al Bell a favorite. Other activities were Librarians' Club, cheerleading, band, chorus, glee clubs, dramatics and safety patrol.

During the years when a dress code was enforced, an important event each spring was shorts day. In 1980, there is no dress code.

Until the Recreation Commission began having parties for children of middle-school age, Junior High all-school parties and class parties were important events for seventh and eighth graders. For many years they had an all-school Christmas party.

Keith Emmert, who started teaching in Pella Junior High in

1949 when it was on the second floor of the old Webster building, recalled that the only mechanical equipment there when he started was a hand-cranked duplicating machine, one movie projector and one film strip projector. "Now, we're loaded!" he said of the new Middle School overhead projectors, video-cassette recorders, T-V sets, tape recorders, cassette recorders, record players, duplicating and mimeographing equipment, a well-equipped dark room and film strip, movie and slide projectors.

The heart of the Middle School building is an area 160 feet square which is divided into rooms by demountable walls which make it possible to rearrange the floor plan of the building without any major construction work. The academic area has a separate section for each grade level with classrooms, science room, storage areas and a teachers' room for each grade. All grades share the library, home ec room and art room.

The building has a music wing, a large industrial arts department, and a large gymnasium with pull-out bleachers. The lunch room is designed so that food prepared in the high school kitchen can be served to the children.

The building, designed for 450 students, housed 350 students the first year it was used.

Architects were Smith-Voorhees-Jenson of Des Moines, and the general contractor was Peters Construction of Newton. Total cost for building and furnishing the school was \$2,332,539 which averages \$38.86 a square foot.

Whether the children of this age were attending a junior high or a middle school, they have always demonstrated a strong loyalty for their school. This feeling is illustrated by the song published in the 1958 student handbook.

Junior High School Song

Nine rahs for Pella Junior High,
We're backing you to win this
game,
Our hearts are ever beating for
you.

We will carry aloft your name.
(Boom! Rah! Rah!)
Always we fight for victory,
Our banners waving in the sky.
We shall never cease to fight
for the green and the white
Forever, Junior Hi!

Pella Christian High School

Began in 1947

Based on Pella Christian High School dedication booklet printed in 1965 and information from the principal, Paul De Jong. ELH

Although a committee to study the possibility of organizing a Christian High School in the Pella area was appointed at the 1928 meeting of the Ministers' Conference of the Christian Reformed Churches of Classis Pella in 1928, the school did not become a reality until September, 1940.

The first board for a Pella Christian High School was ap-

pointed the same year and continued the study. But the pinch of the Depression was being felt, and although they set up plans for a ninth grade in 1929, only two students showed up for it. The High School Society became inactive until 1937 when it was instrumental in getting a ninth grade added to Pella Christian Grade School. In 1938, a tenth grade was added.

A new Christian High School Society organized in December, 1939 and bought the building at 1349 North Main Street for \$6,000. They remodeled it and opened to 41 high school students in September, 1941. On the faculty were George Pals as principal with Adrian De Groot, Mrs. Gerrit Roozenboom, Agnes Vos and Rev. F. Van Houten as teachers.

Commencement for the first class of nine students was held May 20, 1941. They were Kathy Bandstra, Richard De Boer, Arthur J. Beyer, Dorothy De Jong, William Hugen, Irene Keuning, Wilbur Ver Meer, Clarence Vos and Katherine Rus.

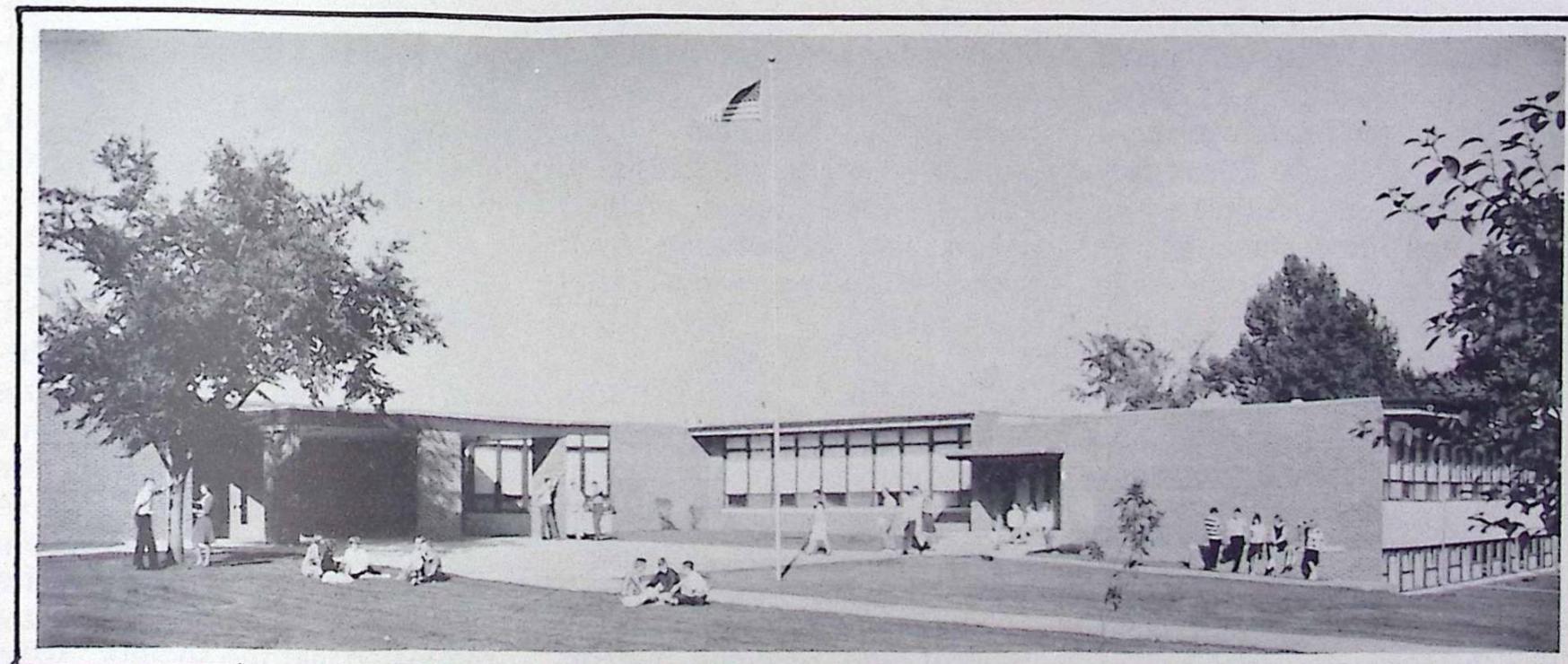
By 1947 enrollment had reached 103, and the crowded building was completely inadequate for the type of education members of the society wanted to give the students. At their annual meeting in 1948, they voted

to construct a new building. The old building on North Main, which had been converted from a home to a hospital to a school was remodeled into an apartment building. The building was destroyed by fire in 1974.

In 1949 the school moved to its new building at 604 Jefferson Street. It was a brick building with six classrooms, a large study hall, kitchen and gymnasium. Because of the growing enrollment, a large addition was built in 1958 and another in 1962.

At 4:30 p.m. on January 14, 1964, a fire was discovered in the building. Boys practicing basketball and a few students and teachers who had stayed beyond regular school hours went out into the cold winter where they watched the building burn to the ground. Some members of the society suggested that it was time to dissolve the Christian High School at the secondary level, but they were in the minority. The dedication and 25th anniversary booklet reports:

Committees were appointed with the mandate to develop plans and proposals which could be presented to the Society. Offers of immediate aid came from all



PELLA CHRISTIAN HIGH SCHOOL has students from Pella as well as from Christian grade schools in towns in the surrounding area.

directions, and the board is deeply grateful to those individuals and organizations who offered aid without solicitation such as the Pella Community School System, Central College, American Legion and the local churches. All were willing to place their facilities at the disposal of the board insofar as it would be able to use them. The board received a tremendous boost in their morale when local contractors from our constituency offered machinery and equipment to clean up the rubble. A call went out that evening for volunteer labor, and on the following morning hundreds of individuals appeared ready and eager to help. All of the debris had been cleared away, and salvageable materials were moved to other locations within a period of two days.

School was again in session at various buildings throughout the town on January 27. Enough classrooms of the new building were completed for classes to move into it in September, 1964.

In 1967 the school was approved for a chapter of National Honor Society. In 1968, the commercial department was enlarged, in 1974 an addition was built for industrial arts.

The 1978-1979 enrollment was 329, drawn from 11 different school districts covering a radius of 35 miles. Buses pick up students in Oskaloosa and Sully, and some students ride the buses operated by Pella Christian Grade School. The high school draws students from Christian grade schools in Sully, Oskaloosa, Peoria, Pella, Prairie City and Newton. There are 20 teachers on the faculty.

Extra-curricular activities include speech, debate, drama, band, vocal groups and athletics. In 1952, the girls' basketball team was one of the "Sweet Sixteen" in the state basketball



PELLA CHRISTIAN SCHOOL at the corner of West Third Street and Union began with a one-story building, added a second story and then had students in the basement. That is when the school patrons decided it was time to construct a new school.

tournament following an undefeated season. The 1974 boys' basketball team was the school's first one to be in the sub-state competition.

Pella Christian Grade School Goes Back to 1912

Based on "50 Years of Blessings," booklet published for Golden Anniversary celebration; "Pella Christian Grade School," booklet published in 1953 for dedication of present school, and information from Ivan Groothuis, principal. ELH

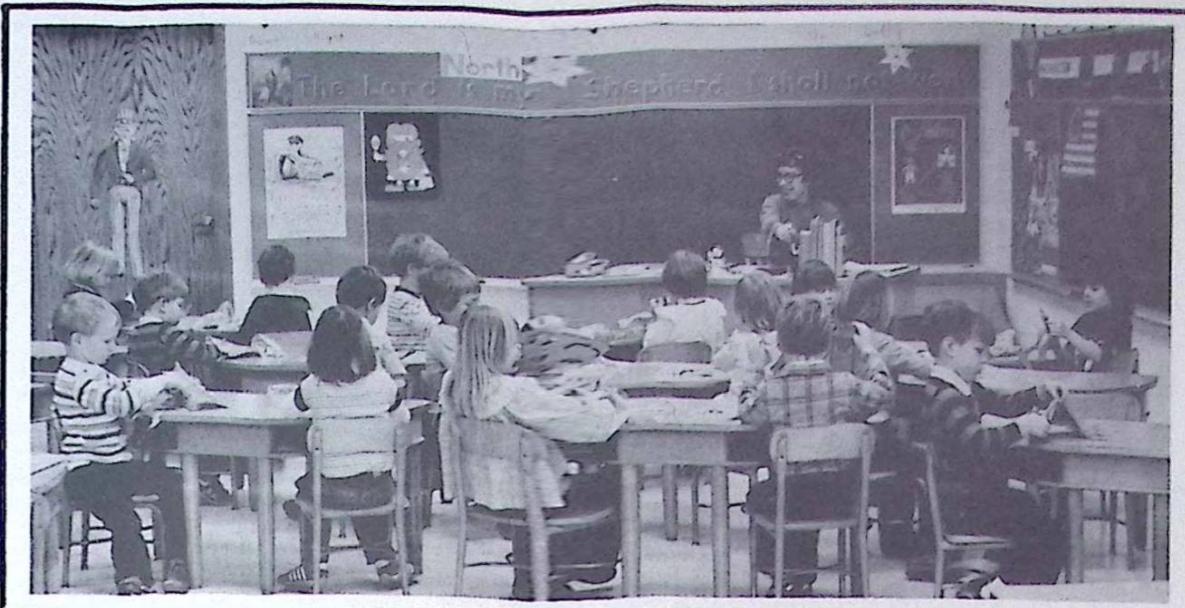
Asociation for Christian Education of Pella was organized in 1912 and incorporated under the Code of Iowa with the goal of organizing a "non-denominational school at Pella, Iowa, for the purposes of Biblical and religious instruction, together with instruction in all the common branches of

learning as taught in our public schools."

The society bought the lot at the corner of West Second and Union Streets for \$1,250 and spent \$2,898 to erect a two-room school. It opened on January 6, 1913, with 26 pupils enrolled in six grades. By the end of the term, there were 49 pupils with Mr. Cleveringa as teacher.

By 1914, the school had eight grades and had gained state approval as a "competent elementary school." In 1915 it graduated its first class of two students, Catrina Van Veen and Walter Van Zomeren.

Instruction was in English except on Friday afternoons when the Dutch language was used. This custom was dropped during World War I when everyone was emphasizing patriotism for the United States. In 1921, the Association voted to increase the board of directors from seven to nine members. The minutes of the annual meeting requested that the society "take into consideration the ability of the nominees for Board mem-



FIRST GRADERS work in a room in the newest wing of Pella Christian Grade School in 1978.

bership to speak the English language."

In 1918, an increased enrollment made it necessary to double the size of the school by putting a second story on the building. The school had three teachers. Later the basement was refinished to provide two more classrooms. On cold winter days, the children went a block north during recess to play in the long horse barn which was located on the south lawn of First Christian Reformed Church at the corner of Liberty and Second Streets.

The depression years were

hard ones, but the supporters of the school managed to keep it going, and by 1938, they were able to add a ninth grade to their school.

The enrollment continued to grow during the 1940's. In June, 1951, the Grade School Society authorized purchase of the property at 216 Liberty Street and the beginning of a drive for money to build a new school. Construction of the new building began in September, 1952, with dedication in May, 1953.

Since that time, the building has had several additions. It now has 17 classrooms and

special rooms for music, art, library, physical education and special education. The 1979-80 enrollment is 356 pupils. The staff consists of 20 full-time state certified teachers and one part-time. Eight buses carry the children to school.

Cost of education per pupil in 1979-1980 for the elementary school was \$1055. The school receives contributions from parents, grandparents, area churches and local businesses. Assistance is also provided by the home churches of some families who cannot meet the cost.

The school is operated by a board of directors elected by the society which is made up of parents of children in the school plus anyone who contributed to it financially.

The Association for Christian Education of Pella reincorporated in 1962, changing its name to "Pella Christian Grade School Society" and listing a three-fold base: 1) that the instruction and education of children in school as well as in the home must be in accordance with the Word of God, 2) that the school is not an institution dependent on or belonging to



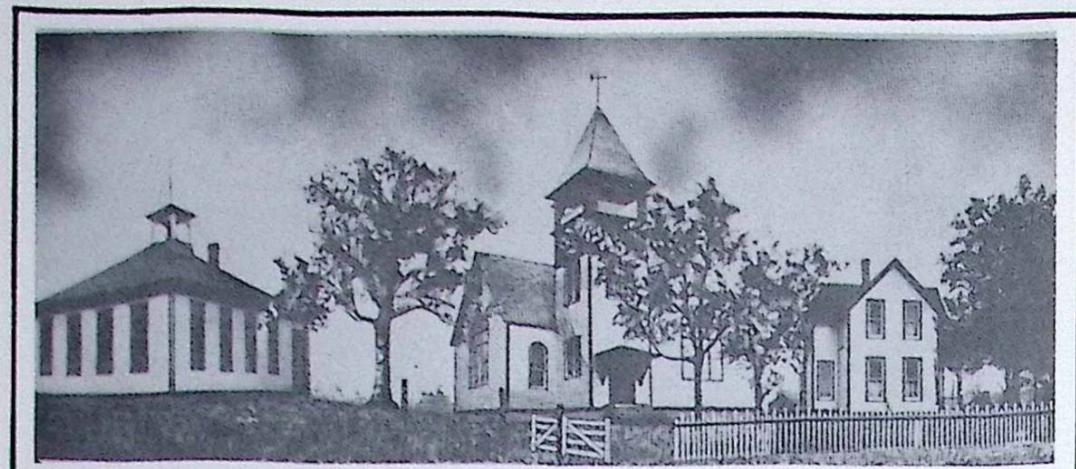
the Church or State, but that it depends on and proceeds from the home, 3) that throughout the course of the child's education the fundamental unity of the school and the home must be retained.

Peoria Christian School

Began in Dutch

Based on "Monument to God's Faithfulness," historical sketch published to mark the 50th anniversary of Peoria Christian School, and information from Robert B. De Jager, the principal. ELH

A summer school begun in 1904 to give Bible instruction in the Dutch language to children of Peoria Christian Reformed Church families planted the seed which became the Peoria Christian School. The school was conducted during July and August with A.J. Rus, a seminary student, as teacher for two summers. The third summer of the school, it was taught by another seminary stu-



HOLLAND CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH OF PEORIA was the name selected for the church organized by Dutch settlers "over the river" in 1894. The school, on the left, was built in 1910. The school and church were destroyed by fire in 1918; the house, built as a parsonage, is now the home of the principal of the Christian school.

dent, Peter Jonger, Jr.

As the church members listened to their children give programs in Dutch about the Bible, they decided they wanted to have a Christian day school. They organized a school society, raised money, hired a teacher and opened the school in the church in September, 1907. The first teacher was Douwe Veltman who agreed to teach for nine months for a total of \$450. Forty children were enrolled.

In 1908, the society bought some land from J. G. Van Gorp, who owned the farm north of the church, and started building

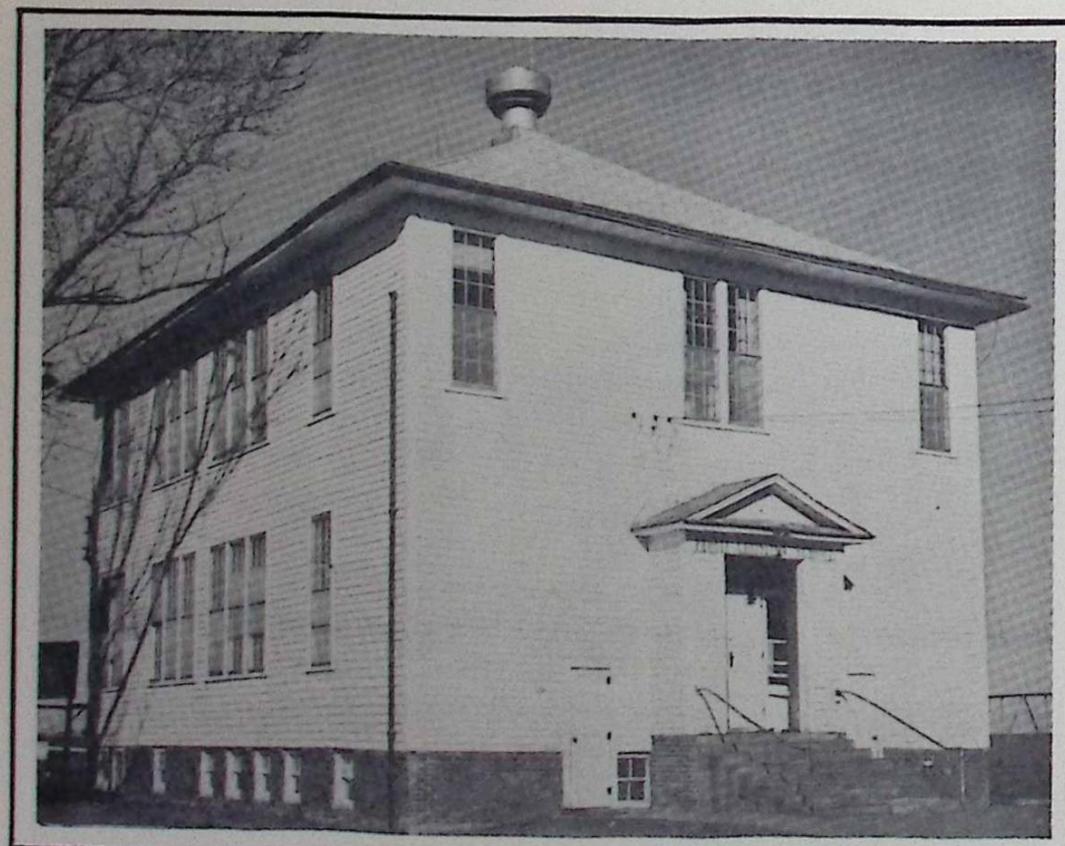
a one-room school. Classes began there in September, 1910.

The teacher and children used the English language except on Fridays when everything was done in Dutch. This custom was discontinued in 1911.

By 1912, the school had an enrollment of 84 children, and a second room was added to the school with Frank Kuiper as the second teacher. In 1914, the school graduated its first class of eighth graders.

During World War I, when James Hietbrink was teacher, some of the people of the Peoria community doubted the loyalty to the United States of the Dutch people who sent their children to a private school. The Golden Anniversary booklet reports:

Feeling ran high and the school became the issue on which bitter hatred centered. Mob violence was threatened and for a short time the school was closed for fear of destruction by fire. Mr. Hietbrink was singled out for threatening and violence which he faced with great courage. One evening as he walked from the Peoria store with a supply of groceries a young man waylaid him from behind and knocked him to the ground and inflicted a brutal beating. Upon the advice of the Board he left the



PEORIA CHRISTIAN SCHOOL has undergone some changes since it was completed in 1920, but it still provides the place for classes for children from kindergarten through eighth grade.

community. At that time the threat of burning the school was actually carried out and both the school and the church were quickly reduced to ashes.

For two years there was no Christian school in Peoria. The school society continued to meet and was able to construct a four-room building, hire teachers and start classes again in September, 1920. For a few years, the school expanded to 10 grades.

During the depression years, the board of directors lowered the salaries of the teachers but still had a difficult time meeting the expenses of the school. In 1937, the society meeting adopted a system of drawing up a budget and assessing tuition for each child in order to meet expenses.

The society has had an active interest in keeping the school safe and modern. For example, the school was wired for electricity in 1936, and bus transportation began for the children in 1941. The enrollment grew, and in 1954, the basement was remodeled for a classroom. The enrollment hit a top of 116 in the 1960's.

The 1978-79 enrollment of the school is 67 children from kindergarten through eighth

grade. The teachers are Robert De Jager (principal), Rich Gootjes, Marie De Jong and Becky Mulder. The school draws students from a nine-mile radius around Peoria and runs three school buses. One bus goes from the school each day to take high-school age students to classes at Pella Christian High School.

Christian Opportunity Center

Fills Need

*(Based on information from Arthur Ruiter, director of COC.)
ELH*

Articles of Incorporation for Christian Opportunity Center (COC) were approved and a board of directors was named in July, 1968, after parents and educators had struggled several years with the fact that handicapped people in the community were not being served appropriately. Harold Eiten was appointed director, and the center began in June, 1969.

COC Corporation purchased the Clarence Van Steenis farm on the north edge of Pella in July, 1969. In March, 1972, the corporation sold most of the

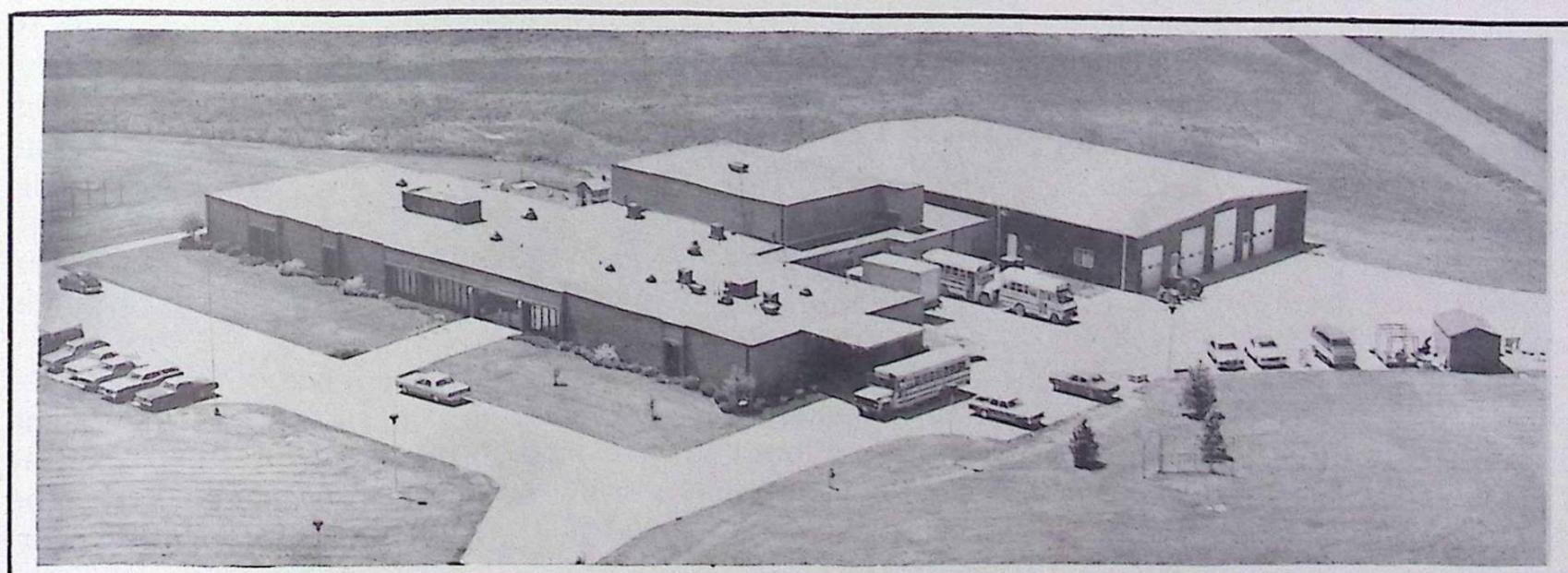
farm to Pella Land Development Company which started work on the Park View Addition. COC retained 19.6 acres as the site for the center. After Broadway was extended to the area, the land was identified as 1553 Broadway.

The program of services to handicapped children began September 15, 1969 with five students. Classes were held in the education wing of Second Reformed Church. Eiten was the first teacher with Mrs. Jean (Don) DeWaard as an aide.

The student population grew, and in the fall of 1971, the center moved to the house at 707 Liberty Street owned by Third Reformed Church in addition to space in Second Reformed Church. In the summer of 1975, COC moved to their new building at 1553 Broadway.

A Work Activity Center Program was added to the program in 1974 with six adult clients. These people worked in the basement of Faith Christian Reformed Church with Ted Huisman as workshop director and Sharon Byers as supervisor. In 1975, the workshop moved into the crafts room of the new building. In September, 1976, the old Co-Op office at 419 South Street was opened for workshop use. As the program grew, it became

CHRISTIAN OPPORTUNITY CENTER occupies a 19-acre site at the north end of Broadway.





SITUATION REVERSED. Webster playground is located where the first Webster School stood, and Webster School is located where the children had a playground until 1951 when construction of the present building began.

necessary to have a larger facility, so the COC corporation voted in July, 1978, to construct a new workshop building, a steel structure adjoining the COC building. The new 10,000-square-foot workshop area was dedicated in June, 1979.

Men who have served as chairmen of the board for COC are Rev. Gordon Stuit, Rev. Wayne Hall, Orville Zylstra, Robert L. Vermeer, Henry Klein and Roger Pfadenhauer. Directors of the center have been Harold Eiten (1969-1973), Bruce Nikkel (1973-1976), and Arthur Ruiter, the present director.

Financial assistance and backing have been strong. Primary funding has consistently been received from people in the greater Pella area. Solicitation of funds has been primarily through churches and businesses. Two classes of the Reformed Church (Pella and Pleasant Prairie) and two classes of the Christian Reformed Church (Pella and North Central) have given continuing support. In addition, a large number of churches, societies, clubs, businesses and individuals are regular givers. The Vermeer Foundation and the Rolscreen Foundation both have made sizeable contribu-

tions, according to school officials. Current assets of the organization are approximately one million dollars.

Public funding for services has continued to increase since the center began. The basic agency purchasing the services of COC is the Department of Social Services. That agency processed local and federal funds which accounted for approximately half of COC's 1978-79 budget. These funds are for operating expenses and services; there is no public funding for construction.

Playgrounds Change

The playgrounds around Webster and Lincoln schools do not look the way they did when children first started playing games on them.

Webster School, built in 1876, and Lincoln, built in 1904, both had pumps on the playground which children used for water when they were thirsty. "I can still picture the children standing around a pump, each with a tin cup, and one child pumping water," said C.C. Buerkens, who started to school in 1902.

Flush toilets had not been invented when Webster was built, and two outhouses, one for boys and one for girls, stood on the northwest corner of the school grounds.

In the first quarter of the 20th century, there was a rule that children could not go on the schoolground until 8:30 a.m. While Dora Boatsma was principal at Lincoln, she let the children know that it was all right to step on the playground by putting an American flag in one of the west windows. Not until they saw the flag did the children cross the street to the playground.

There was no playground equipment. During recesses, the children played on the school fences, walked around the area or played games such as Come Ahead, Duck off the Rock or Follow the Leader. If they had a ballgame, they used bats, balls and gloves which belonged to them. They often took tops, jacks or hoops to school to play with at recess or before the bell rang.

Both Lincoln and Webster School playgrounds used to have hills that were good for sliding in the wintertime. At Lincoln the land dropped rapidly from the north door of the school to Jefferson Street. On the east side of the place where the water tower now stands was a ravine full of small trees that made it exciting to ride a sled along the sloping path. The Webster playground sloped sharply from the north side of the building toward the area which is now the Baptist Church parking lot. In the wintertime, the children at both schools built snow forts for snowball fights and made huge tracks in the snow for a favorite game, Fox and Geese.

A few children had bicycles to ride to school, and some children used their roller skates, but the cracks in the board sidewalks were discouraging to skaters.



THE FENCES around the schools were as much fun as the playground equipment. This is a shot of everyone who was attending Bell School north of Pella in 1925.

In the late 1920s, special play equipment was bought for the playgrounds with more added every few years. At recess, the children of 1979 and 1980 play on hand-over-hand bars, monkey bars, parallel bars, swings, slides and merry-go-rounds. The teeter-boards have been removed because they took up much playground area while providing for only a few children. Each grade school has a tether ball pole and nets for basketball.

A large portion of each play-

ground is asphalt to provide an all-weather surface. Hop-scotch outlines and other games are painted on the asphalt. The low portions of the playgrounds have been filled in, so the sliding hills are gone. Some of the area is in grass.

Each classroom has a supply of balls of different sizes, bats and jump ropes to be taken outside at recess plus games and puzzles for use when it is necessary to have recess inside.

The playgrounds look different than they did when the

schools were new, but the atmosphere of fun is the same. Kids still are apt to say that their favorite class is recess.

School Used Auditoriums All Over Town

The first Pella High School auditorium was really just a big room on the second floor of Webster School, built in 1876.

When a bigger space was needed for a school event, the Opera House or the Central College Chapel was used. The College Chapel was in the Young Men's and Young Women's Christian Association built on the Central Campus in 1898 at a cost of \$15,000. It was located where the college Art/Behavioral Science building now stands. The building was destroyed by fire in 1917. The Opera House, which seated approximately 1,000 people, was located on the second floor of the building at 611 Franklin Street, now occupied by the Gamble store. The opera house had a large stage, boxes where some of the audience sat and a big balcony across the back of the auditorium.

An important part of the high school built on Union Street in 1915 was an auditorium. It was used for high school music programs, operettas, regular student assemblies, the Monday morning devotions, graduation and plays plus an annual program put on by the children of Webster and Lincoln elementary schools. Seats with wide arms were installed so that the auditorium could be used as a study hall. Sometimes, community events were held in the auditorium, such as war-time information meetings, get-togethers to discuss community problems, and the annual contest to select a Tulip Time queen.

In 1962 when the present



ONE OF THE AUDITORIUMS used by PHS students was located in the YMCA-YWCA building on the Central campus which burned in 1917. The right hand side of the building is now the southwest portion of the Arts/Behavioral Science building. The bell tower of the old Webster School can be seen on the left side of this shot.

high school was completed (without an auditorium) and the "old high school" became "the new junior high," the auditorium was used for junior high assemblies and music concerts plus plays by both junior and senior high students and the high school's annual Homecoming Skit Night.

Without an auditorium until 1977, high school students sometimes staged plays in the cafeteria or the gymnasium as well as in the Junior High Auditorium. Band and vocal concerts and student assemblies were held in the gymnasium.

An auditorium was added to the high school in 1977 at a cost of \$790,000. The auditorium has a thrust stage with a motorized curtain and a lighting system that includes 30 lights on a catwalk and 20 lights on stage, all controlled by a patch board and a dimmer board. There is a shop area for building scenery and a prop storage and dressing room. The large backstage area is used for band rehearsal.

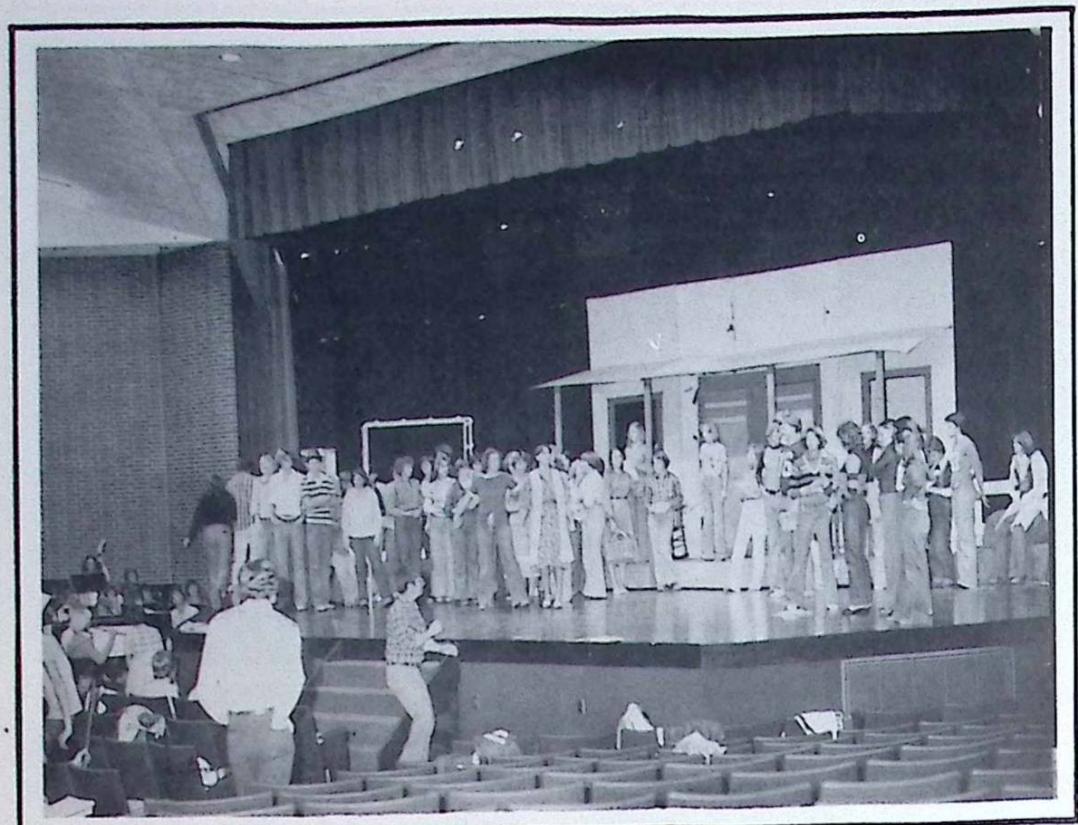
The first event there after the formal dedication was Homecoming Skit Night in 1977. The first musical in the new auditorium was "Oklahoma!" presented in the fall of 1978. The first play was Thurber's "Jabberwock" staged in early 1978.

George and Abe Follow PHS

A member of PHS Class of 1915, C.C. Buerkens said:

When you got to school on Monday morning, you didn't know how George and Abe would be dressed.

He was talking about the busts of George Washington and Abraham Lincoln which stood in the back of the study hall when PHS classes were



"OKLAHOMA!" cast rehearsed for the first musical in the high school auditorium.

held on the second floor of the old Webster School. At different times, the statues had putty noses, funny hats, rouged cheeks or stylish neck scarves.

In 1915 when the high school moved to its new building at 712 Union Street, George and Abe went along. They were placed on shelves in the stairwells where they were targets for paperwads.

In 1962 when the high school again moved to a new building, George and Abe moved too, but no one could find a place for them, and they stood in the storeroom for a few years. When the new art department was built in 1974, the two busts were moved into a place where they again are with students who sometimes decorate them with flower wreathes, hats or



ABRAHAM LINCOLN AND GEORGE WASHINGTON have been with Pella High School students ever since the first high school classes were held in 1876. Posing with the busts are some of the art students in 1979 and their teacher, Sonja Valdes.

scarves. The statues sometimes appear in students' drawings and paintings.

Superintendent in Fifth Office

The first superintendents of Pella schools were also high school teachers and had their office near their classroom. The old Webster School had an office for the superintendent in the center of the top floor, reached by both the north and the south stairs. It had windows all around so that he could keep an eye on everything. After 1915, it was used as a principal's office.

When a new high school was built on Union Street in 1915, it had an office for the superintendent at the northeast corner of the top floor. The office had a window that overlooked the auditorium, which was used as a study hall. When the building was remodeled in 1955, the office became part of a corridor, and the superintendent's office was moved to the ground floor near the spot where the new elevator of the Community Center was installed. Later, that office became a principal's office.

In 1952, the superintendent had two offices — the one at the high school plus one in the new Webster building. The southeast room which is now the principal's office, was used by the superintendent.

The high school built in 1962 on East University had offices for the superintendent and his secretary. The room designed for the superintendent is now a counselor's office, and the old office for the secretary is used by the principal.

An office for the superintendent was included in the administration building constructed at 210 East University in 1969.

Boundaries Change

The line dividing the Webster district and the Lincoln district has varied, depending upon population and the size of the schools. In the early 1900's, the line was drawn through the middle of Central Park. It was on Liberty Street for many years, then was moved south to Union when Lincoln school was enlarged.

Sources

Accounts of buildings used for schools in Pella are based on information from these sources:

Books: History of Pella, Iowa, 1847-1922, published by Booster Press, Pella; History of Marion County, Iowa, published by Union Historical Company, Des Moines, 1881; A Century of Iowa Baptist History, 1834-1934, edited by G.P. Mitchell, published by Baptist Record, Pella; Souvenir History and Biography of Pella, Pella Chronicle, 1902.

Unpublished thesis: School Building Program for Pella, Iowa, John La Grange Yourd, 1949.

Newspapers: Pella Chronicle, Pella Weekly Blade, Pella Saturday Advertiser, Oskaloosa Herald, Des Moines Register.

Other sources: School board minutes; County Superintendent's report, 1876-1877; PHS yearbooks, dedication and Golden anniversary booklets, and reminiscences of students and teachers. ELH



ADMINISTRATION BUILDING for the Pella Community School District houses the offices of the superintendent and secretary plus a vault for records, the board room and a garage to work on school buses. In 1980, an addition is being added to the north end.

People

The Human Aspect

Everyone in a town is affected by its schools, but the people this history is focusing on are the school board members, the teachers and the pupils.

No one has computed how many students have been enrolled in the Pella schools. Most of the records kept since 1873 are in the superintendent's office, but a total number would be only a guess. Adding up the names on almost 100 lists of graduates indicates that approximately 4700 boys and girls

have graduated from Pella High School. Each of these students has been affected by the Pella schools; each one is a part of its history.

A total of 76 men and one woman have served on the school board since the first board of directors was elected in 1873. And 754 men and women have been teachers in the Pella public schools. Each of these people built on the foundations laid by earlier teachers and board members, going back to the men who held classes in

their log cabin homes before a school was built.

The men and women who taught the children of Pella and the surrounding rural areas were a varied group. Names of all of the people who ever taught in the Pella public schools are listed in this section. Stories or biographical sketches are included of the first teachers in Pella and of the people who taught in Pella at least 20 years.

AN OFFICIAL SCHOOL BOARD MEETING in 1978 consisted of these people. SEATED: Boyd Boehlje, John Madden, J.B. Dahm. STANDING: Barbara Vander Werff (secretary), Gene De Boef, Brandt Van Maanen, Dr. Orville Dunkin (superintendent).

This section of Pella School History focuses on school officials and teachers. But they certainly are not the only people involved in life in Pella schools. The human aspect of the pupils in the schools is covered in the remaining sections of this book.



List of Board Members

J. B. Dahm, School Board president, and Barbara Vander Werff, board secretary, prepared the lists of names in this section, using history books, board minutes and school record books.

Names of school board members, the years that they served and their occupation are listed here. An asterick (*) indicates that the person served as president of the board.

John Nollen, 1873-1878, banker
B. G. Bowen, 1873-1878, general merchandise
R. R. Watts, 1873
A. Vanstight, 1873, 1877-1879, shoe and harness maker
F. W. Waechter, 1873-1877, lumber dealer
C. Rynsburger, 1873-1877, merchant
James Muntingh, 1874-1876, educator and mercantile business
*D. S. Huber, 1874-1876 / 1892-1898, elevator feed and grain
E. R. Casset, 1877-1882, banker
W. D. Forsythe, 1878-1883, school superintendent and druggist
S. H. Viersen, 1878-1883, farmer-merchant
*H. Wormhoudt, 1879-1887, lumber dealer
H. Neyenesch, 1879-1884, educator & publisher
Barney Buerkens, 1880-1882, wagon manufacturer
J. M. Cox, 1883-1885, depot agent
P. Kruidinier, 1883-1888, furniture dealer
Simon Vander Zyl, 1884-1886, grain & livestock dealer
B. S. Scheimerhorn, 1884, produce dealer
*C. E. Snow, 1885-1887 / 1889-1891, elevator, feed & grain
*F. W. Brinkhoff, 1886-1888 / 1891-1898, druggist
P. G. Gaass, 1887-1889, business man
Charles Rinehart, 1887-1889
J. Bosquet, 1888-1890, produce dealer
G. S. Bookenoogen, 1888-1890, grocer
*A. A. Waechter, 1889-1900, lumber dealer
B. H. Van Spankeren, 1890-1895, merchant & banker
M. Witzenberg, 1890-1894
J. Dykstra, 1891-1896, merchant
G. Van Vliet, 1885-1886 / 1897-1899, baker
*H. Rietveld, 1895-1910, banker
*E. M. Cole, 1896-1918, seed dealer
*H. J. Vanden Berg, 1899-1911, shoe store
W. M. Kruger, 1900-1905
Abram Verploeg, 1901-1903, nurseryman
*P. Van Sittert, 1904-1924, bookkeeper
*J. S. Rynsburger, 1906-1917, merchant
*Geo. J. Thomassen, 1911-1916
*Simon De Haan, 1912-1917 / 1919-1928, farmer-livestock man

J. A. Vander Wal, 1917-1919 / 1934, salesman-Pella Stacker Co.
*T. G. Fultz, 1918-1932, veterinarian
*G. H. Waechter, 1918-1926, lumber dealer
*J. H. Cochrane, 1920-1922, banker
*C. H. Wormhoudt, 1922-1934, furniture dealer
*George Gaass, 1925-1933, attorney
*C. F. Dykstra, 1927-1932, Rock Island depot agent
*H. A. Veenstra, 1929-1935, building contractor
Del S. De Haan, 1933-1934 / 1945-1947, farm manager & livestock feeder
*George Lankelma, 1933-1936, dentist
W. C. Verploeg, 1935-1944, veterinarian
*A. P. Verploeg, 1935-1948, nurseryman
Paul Lautenbach, 1935-1938, postal worker
*H. O. Wormhoudt, 1936-1947, dentist
J. N. Vander Linden, 1937-1946, service station operator
Ralph Grundman, 1939-1952, dairyman
*Bill Van Sittert, 1947-1952, dry goods store
Robert Lautenbach, 1948-1950, engineer
J. E. Schultz, 1948-1953, dentist
*J. G. Boat, 1949-1963, banker
Martin Heerema, 1951-1958, automobile dealer
Ray Robus, 1953-1957, farm elevator manager
Emery Gaard, 1953-1957, manager, Pella Canning
*Ed Wesselink, 1954-1970, postmaster
Ernest De Cook, 1958-1960, farmer & insurance agent
Nelson Vos, 1958-1971, rural mail carrier
Ellis Christiansen, 1959, R.E.C. manager
*J. J. Cook, 1960-1975, furniture dealer
Howard Glendening, 1960-1974, banker (Leighton)
*J. B. Dahm, 1964-1979, contractor (highway)
Norman Verros, 1971, engineer at Rolscreen
*Boyd Boehlje, 1971-, attorney
John Madden, 1971-, mechanic (Ford)
Ken Uitermarkt, 1975, building materials manager
Brandt Van Maanen, 1975-, farmer & farm supply dealer
Gene De Boef, 1975 -, teacher & Rolscreen employee
Shirley Borgman, 1979 -, teacher and homemaker



SHIRLEY BORGMAN, first woman ever elected to any public office in Pella, holds up her hand to be sworn in as a school board member in September, 1979.



OFFICIALS WHO GAVE APPROVAL of the completed high school building on October 4, 1962 were: FRONT: C.C. Buerkens (superintendent), Gil Boat (board member). MIDDLE ROW: Omar Roth (contractor), Nelson Vos (board member), Ray Dieleman (maintenance supervisor), Jack Cook, Howard Glendening and Ed Wesselink (board members). BACK ROW: Stanley Ver Ploeg (architect), and Dale Dickinson (contractor).

Deaths

Three men have died while they were serving on the school board. They were Paul Lautenbach in 1939, Nelson Vos in 1970 and Jack Cook in 1975.

Only Woman

Shirley Borgman is the only woman ever to be elected to the Pella school board. She was elected in September, 1979.

PHS Grads on Board

Long Termers

E.M. Cole, first elected to the school board in 1896, served longer than anyone else in the board's history, 23 years. Other long-time school board members were F. Van Sittert, 21 years; Ed Wesselink, 17 years; Simon De Haan and H. Rietveld, 16 years and T. G. Fultz, J. G. Boat, Jack Cook, H. Glendening and J. B. Dahm, 15 years. Boat was president of the board longer than anyone else, 13 years.

Pella High graduates who have served as members of the school board are Delwin De Haan and Robert C. Lautenbach, both members of the Class of 1920; Martin Heerema, Class of 1928; Gil Boat, Class of 1924; Jack Cook, Class of 1949; Brandt Van Maanen, Class of 1952 and Kenneth Uitermarkt, Class of 1954.

Superintendents

1857-1858 - C. T. Chapin
1857-1859 - Warren Olney
1857-1960 - E. D. Morgan
1857-1861 - C. B. Boydston
1862-1865 - F. W. Corliss
1865-1869 - W. D. Forsythe
1869-1871 - W. H. Post
1871-1886 - C. C. Cory
1886-1889 - L. J. Hancock
1890-1891 - W. L.A. Aul
1891-1897 - J. H. Garber
1897-1901 - Willard Lyon
1901-1903 - W. W. Cook
1903-1906 - W. C. Farmer
1906-1937 - F. M. Frush
1937-1964 - C. C. Buerkens
1964-1973 - M. F. Whitney
1973 - Orville Dunkin

School District

Treasurers

Kenneth H. Bean	1941-1960
Earl Pohlman	1960-1976
Charles Vander Ploeg	1976-

School Board Secretaries

John Nollen	1868
Henry Nollen	1873-1878
Wm. Vander Linden	1879-1882
Henry Kuyper	1882-1910
D.G. Gosselink	1910-1921
Peter Van Sittert	1921-1937
Sam Versteeg	1937-1946
John J. Blommers	1947-1970
Barbara Vander Werff	1970-

Record-holding Secretary

Barb Vander Werff

The person who has been a school secretary longer than any other person in Pella is Barbara Vander Werff, PHS Class of 1949. Barb became a school secretary a few hours each week as part of her training in the high school secretarial training program and has been a school secretary ever since.

She went to the Otley School through fourth grade, then went to Warren Rural School until she finished eighth grade. She passed the county superintendent's examination, received her eighth grade diploma and decided that was all the formal education she wanted. But a year on the farm helping with chores and picking corn, and conversations with Jane Gosselink, the high school principal, made her decide to go back to school. At that time, it was up to the rural school districts to pay the tuition and transportation costs for high school students.

Barb worked part time in the school office, helping both the principal and the superintendent, the summer after she finished high school and became a full-time employee that fall. From 1952 to 1958, she was secretary to the high school principal. From that time until 1970, she was the superintendent's secretary, then she became the school board secretary, a position which she

now holds.

When she started, her job included recording attendance and grades, typing letters and sending tuition and transportation bills to the rural school districts. Since then, the school district has grown and changed, and her work has changed. Hot lunch, enlarged bus routes, insurance for employees, increased athletic programs, school inventory system and increased government regulations all have affected her work during her 31 years in the school office.

She handles purchase orders for all of the equipment and supplies, book rental fees and payroll from kindergarten through the high school. A big aspect of the job is handling bids for many of the things which the school buys; for example, supplies for the hot lunch program, instructional supplies, equipment, magazine subscriptions for the school libraries, gasoline and fuel oil.

Barb has done the secretarial work connected with the construction of Webster School, the additions at Lincoln, Leighton School, the high school and its additions, Middle School and the school administration building. When it was time for her to sign the bonds for the Middle School and high school auditorium, the company issuing the bonds requested that she fly to Chicago to sign the bonds in a bank there. Her signature was needed on 590 bonds, each worth \$5,000 which were worth \$2,950,000 after she finished signing them.

She writes the minutes for each school board meeting and keeps track of a wide variety of details for the members. She is in charge of all of the board records and policy books.

In 1964, the board voted to go to a machine bookkeeping system. She was the superintendent's secretary then, but agreed to do the bookkeeping part of the school board

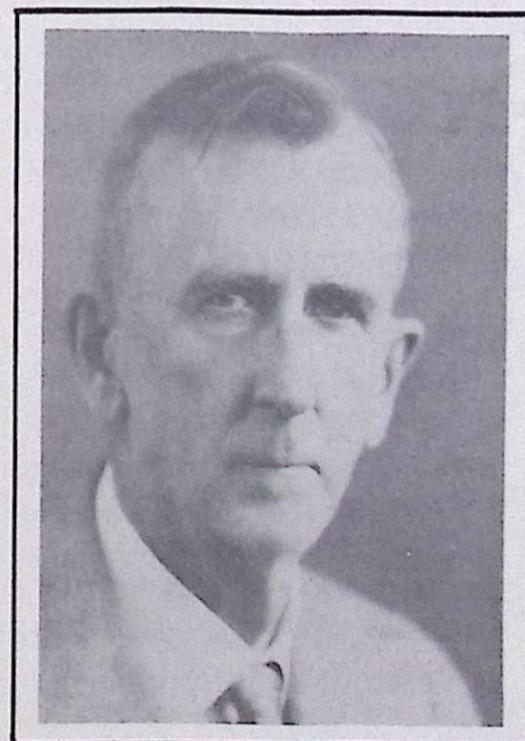
secretary's job. In 1969, the school payroll was computerized. In 1980, the school district will go to a completely computerized system of bookkeeping with a terminal in Barb's office. She will be using equipment which hadn't been thought of when she began the duties of a school secretary.

F. M. Frush, Superintendent For 31 Years

Based on interviews with former students and the handbook for Pella schools written by Frush. ELH

For 31 years, almost one-fourth of the history of Pella, F.M. Frush was superintendent of schools.

It was during his administration that the school moved from the European idea that the main goal of schools should be to give a classical education to a comparatively few people to the philosophy that schools should prepare everyone for living in a democracy. Shop classes and the normal training course to prepare students to teach in rural schools were among the additions he made to the curriculum. He worked to increase



FRANK M. FRUSH

high school enrollment and to get a new high school building for the town.

Everyone who was a high school student while Frush had his superintendent's office in the building remembers his "Call of the Wild" speech. Each spring, he lectured the students at an assembly, using the title of Jack London's popular book to point out that students should resist the call of the wild, the desire to play hookey.

"Why live in the lowlands when the highlands are calling?" was a question he often asked students if he believed their goals were too low. The question appealed to the students, and several classes used it as their class motto.

He always carried a ring of keys which he twirled as he walked through the schools of Pella. "We always could hear him coming and would be on our best behavior when he got to our room," the former pupils recall.

This story appeared on page one of the Pella Chronicle, October 3, 1946.

After forty years of service to the people of Pella, Mayor Frank M. Frush, aged 78 years, died at his home shortly after eight o'clock Monday morning, September 30. He had been Mayor of Pella since 1941, and prior to that had been superintendent of the public schools for thirty-two years. [Story is wrong; it was 31 years.] He came here in 1906. In the few years that he was not engaged in these posts, he was pressed into service as president of the Chamber of Commerce.

Mr. Frush had never been a robust man for he had a heart ailment. He was in failing health for the past year but continued active in look-

ing after the affairs of the city until Saturday, September 21. He became seriously ill that evening and his condition became steadily worse until death came. Of late months his greatest interest had been in the addition to the municipal light plant, now under construction.

Influence Many

There is great regret at the passing of Mr. Frush for in the thirty-two years of school work here he touched the lives of most of Pella's now middle-aged and young people. Besides there are hundreds of men and women who have gone into other communities who carry with them the memory of Mr. Frush's kindly personality and his teaching by instruction and example of good citizenship and honorable association with others. His was always an uplifting influence. He was prevailed upon to serve as president of the Chamber of Commerce and later as Mayor by friends who knew him to be wholly honest, trustworthy and always to be depended upon for fair and right dealing and judgments. He was, by nature, a modest and unassuming man with a high sense of fidelity to duty and a desire to be of service to others.

Life Story

Frank M. Frush was born in Knoxville, Iowa on August 31, 1868, the son of Judge and Mrs. F. M. Frush of that city. He graduated from Knoxville High School and taught several years near Knoxville before entering Shurtleff College, at Alton, Illinois. He was graduated from Shurtleff College in 1896, and for several years was Deputy County Clerk. He then became principal of the Knoxville High School.

In 1899 he married Rose Miller of Alton, Ill., and to them were born two daughters, Dr. Harriet Frush of The Bureau of Standards of Washington, D.C., and Mrs. C.J. Vander Wert, who with her husband and three children reside in Abingdon, Ill.

Funeral Wednesday

He leaves his wife, two daughters and three grandchildren: Frank Vander Wert, and twin granddaughters, Roselyn and Marelyn Vander Wert. Early in life he united with the Baptist Church and was active in Church affairs until the time of his death.

Funeral services were held on Wednesday, October 2 at 2:00 o'clock p.m. at the Baptist Church, the Reverend William Winstead in charge. Burial was in Graceland Cemetery, Knoxville. Business houses in the city were closed during the funeral in respect to the memory of Mr. Frush.

Buerkens Hometown Boy as Superintendent

Based on interview with C. C. and Florence Buerkens in 1979. Information from Buerkens is included in several other sections of this book. ELH

In 1902, Clarence Buerkens began school in Howell School on the playground east of the old Webster School. In 1937, he became the first and only native-born Pellan to hold the job of superintendent of schools in his hometown.

He served as superintendent for 27 years, until his retirement in 1964. When Buerkens arrived in Pella, there were 25

teachers, 677 pupils, three buildings, and an operating budget of \$42,000 a year. When he resigned, there were 76 teachers, 1,580 pupils, and seven buildings with a budget for the following school year of \$774,778.

After Buerkens began his education in the Howell building, he attended nearby Webster School through third grade, then was shifted by the school board to Lincoln School, where he graduated from eighth grade in 1911. He attended high school on the second floor of the Webster building, which was ample for approximately 100 students who were enrolled. His Class of 1915 with eight boys and 16 girls was the last one to graduate from the old Webster building.

Sports were Buerkens' main interest when he was in high school. It was then that he acquired the name, Buck, a contraction of Buerkens, a nickname which most people still use for him.

"Pella was a baseball town — there were diamonds all over town," he said. The town had a team called the Pella Meteors, and the high school and college both had teams. Buerkens played on all of them at different times. He was pitcher for the Pella High team for three years, and PHS never lost a game during that time.

He played basketball for Pella High on the first team which used the gym in "the new high school" on Union Street. The gymnasium was completed before the rest of the building was ready and was used for games at the end of the 1914-1915 season.

When he was in high school, football was forbidden by the school board and was frowned upon by many parents. Buerkens recalls that when he was a senior, a group of students bought their own uniforms and shoes and arranged for a couple of games, calling themselves the



C. C. BUERKENS

Pella High School Football Team. Some college students did the coaching. "Maybe that was the beginning of student teaching," Buerkens commented. The boys owned a total of 11 pairs of shoes, and when a substitution was made, the game had to wait while the players exchanged shoes.

He attended Central College for two years. In 1917, when the United States was considering getting into World War I, he took a job in the Ordnance Department in Washington, D.C. until the war was over.

He returned to Central College briefly and decided to join the group of Central students who were transferring to the University of Iowa in Iowa City, where he graduated in 1920.

He had two different summer jobs while he was in high school and college. His first job was at Buerkens Manufacturing Company, a wagon factory owned by his grandfather, located in the 500 block on South Main Street where Ron's Market and Leyden's Auto are now located. Later he worked for a Chautauqua circuit. The company provided lecturers, orators, singers and dramatists for programs in towns throughout the United States. Buerkens began as a

tent boy in 1915 and then became a manager in 1920, traveling in several states to set up schedules.

His first teaching job was in Owasa, Iowa in 1920 where he was principal of a consolidated school. He also coached basketball, baseball and track. He took off a year to get his master's degree in vocational education from Iowa State College at Ames, then returned to Owasa to be superintendent.

In 1924 he became superintendent at Farragut, Iowa where he met Florence Quist, the future Mrs. Buerkens, who was teaching home economics and math there.

"I thought long and hard about coming back to my hometown to be superintendent," said Buerkens, recalling the invitation in 1937 from some of his high school friends who were serving on the Pella school board.

Perhaps he was thinking about some of his experiences as a pupil in the Pella schools; for example, the time he and two friends were caught playing hookey one spring afternoon when they were third graders to go fishing in the pond at what later became Swimming Pool Park. For that, the boys had to stay in after school every day for a week and also received a "tubing" from the superintendent. (Using a tube as a whip was a common discipline measure for both grade school and high school pupils for about 30 years.)

"I shall never forget my first teachers' meeting in Pella. It wasn't easy to face several of my former teachers as their superintendent," he said.

Buerkens did graduate work at the University of Colorado in Boulder, University of Iowa and University of Southern California at Los Angeles.

During his years as superintendent, he taught physics, general science, guidance, aeronautics and algebra at various times.

Buerkens saw his first Tulip Time in 1938, the third year of the celebration and his first year as superintendent of the Pella schools. A government agency which was trying to find jobs for unemployed artists sent someone to take his measurements, do some research on outfits worn by Dutch school masters and make a costume for him to wear in the parade. Using a wooden clapper patterned after those used by the curfew men in old Holland, he led the school children of Pella in the parade every Tulip Time until his retirement. From then until

1978, he wore the blue velvet town crier's outfit which he inherited from the late George Francis Sadler.

After his retirement, he spent a year working as admissions counselor at Central College, was Pella city treasurer for three and a half years, and served as superintendent of schools at Shelby, Iowa for a semester when the head of the schools there died suddenly.

He served as an elder and a consistory member of Second Reformed Church and was a charter member of the Pella Rotary Club. His civic honors in-

cluded a distinguished alumnus award from Central College and the city's community service award in 1973. For nine years, he was Cancer Crusade chairman for the north half of the county. He is a member of the Walt Whitman Club, an honorary organization for school men.

The Buerkens had two children, Bruce who died in 1976, and Bonnie Showalter who works for the Easter Seal Society in Des Moines. They have three grandchildren, Barney, Belinda and Benjamen who live in Davenport.

Long-Time Administrators

Since a superintendent was first hired for the Pella schools in 1857, and a principal was first hired in 1896, the Pella schools have had seven administrators who served for at least 15 years. They were:

C. C. CORY, superintendent 15 years, 1871-1886.

DORA BOATSMA, elementary principal 33 years; at Lincoln 1908 to 1916, at Webster 1916 to 1941.

F. M. FRUSH, superintendent 31 years, 1906 to 1937.

C. C. BUERKENS, superintendent 28 years, 1937 to 1964.

JEAN WILKINS, high school principal 27 years, 1952 to 1979.

DENA VER STEEG, principal at Lincoln 17 years, 1944 to 1961.

JANE GOSSELINK, high school principal 15 years, 1937 to 1952.

All of these people except Frush and Buerkens were classroom teachers in Pella before becoming administrators.

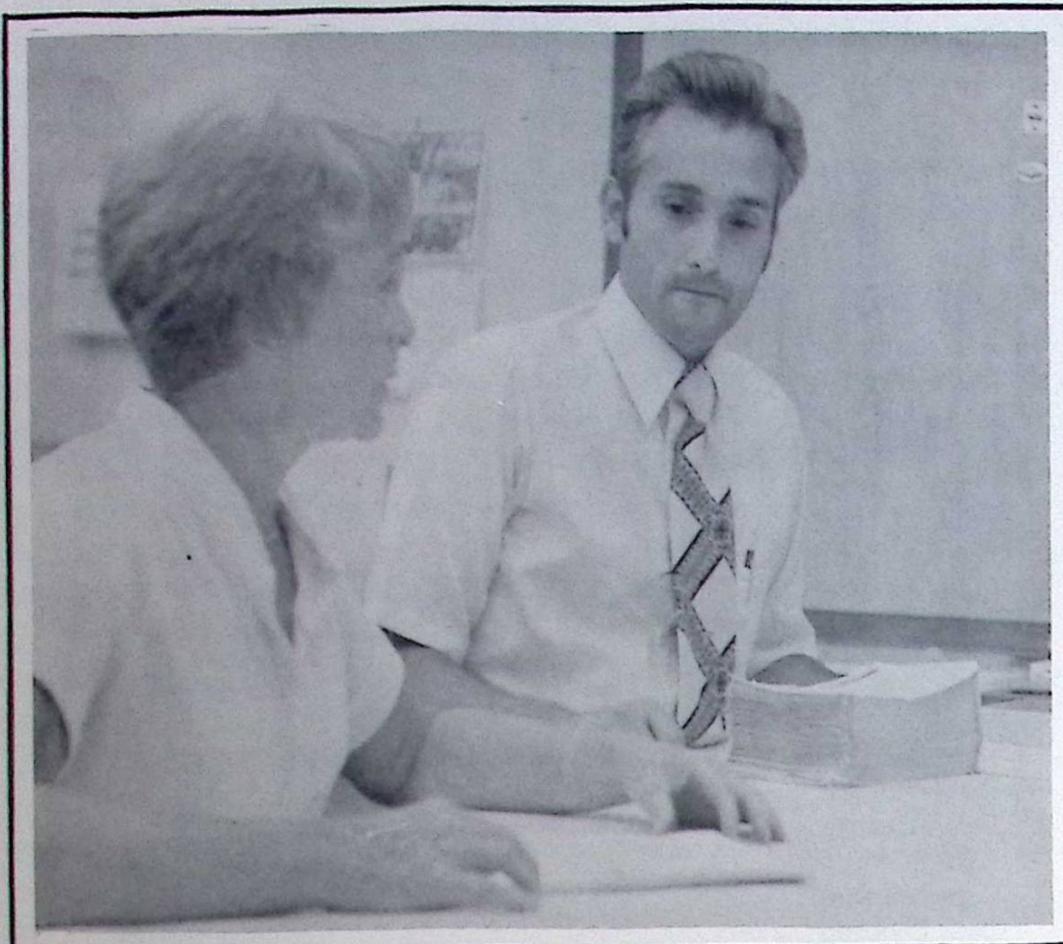
Building Principals

(as listed in School District Registers)

YEAR	LINCOLN SCHOOL	WEBSTER SCHOOL	JUNIOR HIGH	SENIOR HIGH
1896-1897				W. H. Lyon
1897-1898				Carrie Edmand
1898-1899				Carrie Edmand
1899-1900				Carrie Edmand
1900-1901				Sara Nollen
1901-1902				Mrs. M. E. Main
1902-1903				Mrs. M. E. Main
1903-1904				Miss Lynn Anderson
1904-1905				Miss Lynn Anderson
1905-1906				Miss Lynn Anderson
1906-1907	Flora Kester			Miss Lynn Anderson
1907-1908	W. H. Lucas			Ruth Gist
1908-1909	Dora Boatsma			Mamie Zalke
1909-1910	Dora Boatsma			Mamie Zalke
1910-1911	Dora Boatsma			Mamie Zalke
1911-1912	Dora Boatsma			Mamie Zalke
1912-1913	Dora Boatsma			Mamie Zalke
1913-1914	Dora Boatsma			Ora King
1914-1915	Dora Boatsma			Gladys Crisman
1915-1916	Dora Boatsma			Gladys Crisman

Building Principals cont.

YEAR	LINCOLN SCHOOL	WEBSTER SCHOOL	JUNIOR HIGH	SENIOR HIGH
1916-1917		Dora Boatsma		C. E. Clark
1917-1918		Dora Boatsma		Mabel Iowa Jones
1918-1919		Dora Boatsma		Mrs. C. Richardson
1919-1920		Dora Boatsma		E. M. Hinton
1920-1921		Dora Boatsma		E. M. Hinton
1921-1922		Dora Boatsma		Maxwell J. Harkness
1922-1923		Dora Boatsma		Arthur Olliver
1923-1924		Dora Boatsma		Glen L. Bute
1924-1925		Dora Boatsma		Glen L. Bute
1925-1926		Dora Boatsma		R. C. Amidon
1926-1927		Dora Boatsma		R. C. Amidon
1927-1928		Dora Boatsma		R. C. Amidon
1928-1929		Dora Boatsma		R. C. Amidon
1929-1930		Dora Boatsma		R. C. Amidon
1930-1931		Dora Boatsma		R. C. Amidon
1931-1932		Dora Boatsma		R. C. Amidon
1932-1933		Dora Boatsma		R. C. Amidon
1933-1934		Dora Boatsma		Clarence Wilkins
1934-1935		Dora Boatsma		Clarence Wilkins
1935-1936		Dora Boatsma		Clarence Wilkins
1936-1937	Martha Ver Heul	Dora Boatsma		Clarence Wilkins
1937-1938	Martha Ver Heul	Dora Boatsma		Jane Gosselink
1938-1939	Martha Ver Heul	Dora Boatsma		Jane Gosselink
1939-1940	Martha Ver Heul	Dora Boatsma		Jane Gosselink
1940-1941	Martha Ver Heul	Dora Boatsma		Jane Gosselink
1941-1942	Kenneth Rankin	Carl Brown		Jane Gosselink
1942-1943	Anna Mackey	William Chelsey		Jane Gosselink
1943-1944	Anna Mackey	Harold Nehre		Jane Gosselink
1944-1945	Dena Versteeg	Harold Nehre		Jane Gosselink
1945-1946	Dena Versteeg	Harold Nehre		Jane Gosselink
1946-1947	Dena Versteeg	Gilbert Demry		Jane Gosselink
1947-1948	Dena Versteeg	W. Elmo Hughes		Jane Gosselink
1948-1949	Dena Versteeg	E. C. Herrick		Jane Gosselink
1949-1950	Dena Versteeg	Keith Emmert		Jane Gosselink
1950-1951	Dena Versteeg	Robert Robinson		Jane Gosselink
1951-1952	Dena Versteeg	Robert Robinson		Jane Gosselink
1952-1953	Dena Versteeg	Harlan Shaefer		Jean Wilkins
1953-1954	Dena Versteeg	Donald Breish		Jean Wilkins
1954-1955	Dena Versteeg	Donald Breisch		Jean Wilkins
1955-1956	Dena Versteeg	Raymond Strackbeen		Jean Wilkins
1956-1957	Dena Versteeg	Keith Emmert		Jean Wilkins
1957-1958	Dena Versteeg	Roy Reith		Jean Wilkins
1958-1959	Dena Versteeg	Roy Reith		Jean Wilkins
1959-1960	Dena Versteeg	Roy Reith		Jean Wilkins
1960-1961	Dena Versteeg	Barbara Dieleman		Jean Wilkins
	Roy Reith (Elem. Supt.)			
1961-1962	Roy Reith (Elem. Supt.)	Barbara Dieleman		Jean Wilkins
1962-1963	Roy Reith	Barbara Dieleman		Jean Wilkins
1963-1964	Roy Reith	Barbara Dieleman		Jean Wilkins
1964-1965	Harold Nichless	Harold Nichless	Sidney Barrick	Jean Wilkins
1965-1966	Harold Nichless	Harold Nichless	Sidney Barrick	Jean Wilkins
1966-1967	Harold Nichless	Harold Nichless	Sidney Barrick	Jean Wilkins
1967-1968	Harold Nichless	Harold Nichless	Donald Baker	Jean Wilkins
1968-1969	Harold Nichless	Harold Nichless	Donald Baker	Jean Wilkins
1969-1970	Harold Nichless	Harold Nichless	Donald Baker	Jean Wilkins
1970-1971	Merlyn Vander Leest	Harold Nichless	Donald Baker	Jean Wilkins
1971-1972	Merlyn Vander Leest	Harold Nichless	Donald Baker	Jean Wilkins
1972-1973	Merlyn Vander Leest	Harold Nichless	Donald Baker	Jean Wilkins
1973-1974	Merlyn Vander Leest	Harold Nichless	Donald Baker	Jean Wilkins
1974-1975	Merlyn Vander Leest	Harold Nichless	Donald Baker	Jean Wilkins
1975-1976	Merlyn Vander Leest	Harold Nichless	Donald Roehr	Jean Wilkins
1976-1977	Merlyn Vander Leest	Harold Nichless	Donald Roehr	Jean Wilkins
1977-1978	Merlyn Vander Leest	C. Rex Steddom	Donald Roehr	Jean Wilkins
1978-1979	Merlyn Vander Leest	C. Rex Steddom	Donald Roehr	Jean Wilkins
1979-1980	Merlyn Vander Leest	C. Rex Steddom	Donald Roehr	Omer Troyer



OMER TROYER, right, who became principal of Pella High School in July, 1979, confers with Betty Vander Waal, afternoon school secretary.



AT THE PRINCIPALS' MEETING in May 1979 are C. Rex Steddom, Webster; Merlyn Vander Leest, Lincoln; Dr. Orville Dunkin, superintendent; Jean Wilkins, High School, and Donald Roehr, Middle School.

Jane Gosselink at PHS 45 Years

Based on interview in January, 1979. ELH

Since its organization in 1876, Pella High School has had nine women principals, serving as little as one school year and as long as 15 years. The woman principal who headed the school for the longest time was Miss Jane Gosselink, principal from August, 1937 to the spring of 1952.

She recalls going to a movie one evening in the summer of 1937 with some friends and being called out of the theater by the new superintendent, Clarence Buerkens, who told her the school board wanted to talk with her. They offered her the job of high school principal.

"I had to think about that — I enjoyed being in the classroom," she said. She had been teaching history in what everyone called "the new high school" since 1923.

Miss Gosselink began her education in a country school, Black Oak Number Six, located near Leighton, in 1902. Most of the rural children of the period discontinued school after eighth grade, but Miss Gosselink and her older brother, Bill, were inspired by the Synhorst brothers and their sister to set a goal for themselves to graduate from Pella High School. Alfred and Ben Synhorst were among the first people from the Black Oak area to graduate from high school. Both of them went on to become well-known doctors. Their sister, Bess, was Miss Gosselink's rural school teacher for several years.

The Gosselinks attended high school classes on the second floor of Webster School, riding a Rock Island train to Pella each Monday, staying in rented rooms in town, and returning to



JANE GOSSELINK

their home near Leighton on the Friday train.

High school activities in the second decade of the twentieth century included class plays, skating parties, musical groups, athletics and student council. Pella High School had teams for football, basketball and baseball. The student body energetically cheered them, but there was no Pep Club. The skating parties were held at the Old Scholte Church located at 705 to 707 West First Street; the church had been turned into a community hall.

An important part of the high school curriculum was the Normal Training Department which prepared high school students to pass the county superintendent's examination which would give them a certificate to teach in a rural school.

Miss Gosselink was a member of the Class of 1915. She remembers the baccalaureate in the First Reformed Church, a class play in which she had a part a few days before commencement, and the graduation ceremony held in a church.

That summer, she went to the courthouse in Oskaloosa to take

the county school superintendent's examination, passed it and taught in her home school for one year. Her mother died that year, and a year later, she, her father, her brother John and her sister Martha (Lautenbach) moved to the house at 513 Broadway where she still lives. She attended Central College, graduating in 1923, and began teaching history at Pella High School on Union Street.

Later, she took graduate work at the University of Wisconsin, University of Minnesota and Columbia University in New York City where she earned a master's degree.

In 1952, she turned the principalship over to Jean Wilkins and went back to being a classroom teacher and counselling. In 1963, she became a half-time counselor. In 1968, she retired after teaching in Pella for 45 years.

She served on a variety of committees and boards and held several positions in Second Reformed Church while she was teaching school and after her retirement. She received the Community Service Award in 1976.

Principal for a Quarter of PHS History

Based on interview in April, 1979. ELH

The setting is different and some details are different, but basically, being principal of Pella High School was about the same in 1952 as it was in 1979, according to Jean Wilkins, the man who retired from the job in the spring of 1979 after holding the position for 27 years, longer than anyone else in the history of the Pella schools.

Wilkins did his student teaching at PHS in 1949 under the supervision of Henrietta Ver Heul. At that time, Wilkins was a student at Central College under the G.I.

"Bill of Rights," a federal program for World War II veterans. After he graduated, he taught algebra, English and general science for three years at PHS before succeeding Jane Gosselink.

"Kids are about the same as they were in 1952," Wilkins said in the spring of 1979. They get in the same type of trouble, have the same type of problems, are interested in the same types of things and have the same types of goals. There are good kids and some not so good but really, they're just about the same now as when I started."

"Academically, we've become stronger and stronger," said Wilkins. "We built on what earlier administrators and teachers did. We expanded all departments as the school grew and times changed." The most curriculum additions during his years as principal were in shop and agriculture.

"We have grown musically. The earlier teachers gave us an excellent foundation to build on," he said. "The academics and music were always strong, and the athletic program has grown stronger."

The principal's duties have changed since he took over a school of 277 students in 1952 which grew to an enrollment of 528 in 1979. At first he taught two or three classes each year and also handled the athletic program in addition to being principal and one year he was yearbook sponsor. As the athletic program grew and enrollment increased, the teaching assignments for the principal were dropped, a half-time athletic director was added, and an assistant principal joined the staff.

The number of times a year that students get together for an assembly greatly decreased in the 27 years that Wilkins was principal. Regular music assemblies, pep assemblies almost every week, Monday morning devotions in the auditorium and



JEAN WILKINS

special assemblies with speakers or musicians booked through School Assembly Service were a part of the high school schedule when he started.

There were class parties in 1952, but no dances. Grading periods switched from nine weeks to six weeks and back to nine weeks. Report cards were redesigned, and the policy has been changed so that a student no longer has to return the card to school with a parent's signature on it.

"I can remember when only two kids drove their cars to school regularly," Wilkins said. In the spring of 1979, there usually were 260 cars belonging to students and staff parked around the school.

Open lunch policy has gone full circle. When he became principal, there was no hot lunch program, and students ate sack lunches, walked downtown to buy lunch or went home for dinner. For several years, the high school students jogged down the alley from the Union

Street building to the Webster School lunch room.

When the high school moved to the present building, students were not allowed to go outside during the lunch hour. Later, the policy was changed, allowing students to leave but penalizing them if they were late to the class following lunch.

Open campus came about gradually; first, seniors were allowed to leave early if they had no more classes, then they were allowed to come to school late if they did not have a class first hour, then they were permitted to leave the school when they had no classes. Later, some of these privileges were extended to juniors.

More students have part-time jobs in 1979 than when Wilkins became principal.

Early graduation was uncommon for many years; now from two to five students each year fulfill the requirements for graduation in three and a half years. Several have taken extra courses and graduated in three

years.

"No big changes," Wilkins said of discipline. "I was fortunate enough to teach for three years under Jane Gosselink. She was more responsible than anyone else in helping me develop the right philosophy in helping young people. She felt you could change student behavior for the better in most cases by merely talking and reasoning rather than by administering severe punishment." Detention was sometimes used when he became principal, with teachers taking turns staying after school with the few students who were in the detention study hall.

School district reorganization in 1958, which made a big change in the elementary schools of Pella, had little effect on the high school. Most of the students from the rural areas already were attending Pella High School as tuition students.

The move to the present high school building at 212 East University went smoothly with everyone helping to get books, files and records moved during the summer of 1962. All of the furniture and most of the equipment was new, which simplified the moving procedure.

PE classes were held outside that fall because the gym floor was not laid until a few months after school started. The classrooms upstairs echoed because the ceiling tile had not yet been installed. Some of the locks were installed on the wrong doors.

When Wilkins became principal, PHS was accredited by Northwest Accrediting Association on the basis of forms filled out annually. In 1963, the association began a policy of sending inspection teams to schools every seven years. During Wilkins' tenure, the school was inspected twice and passed with compliments from the inspectors.

A computer is used in scheduling classes now, but "kids

still are kids," according to Wilkins.

Wilkins married Martha Vande Voort in 1947. They have three sons, all of whom were students at the school while their father was principal.

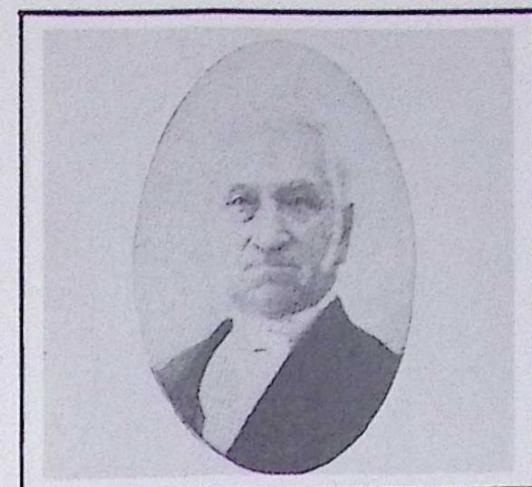
Wilkins was born in Morrison, Illinois, graduated from high school there, served in the U.S. Air Force during World War II and graduated from Central College in 1949. He received his master's degree from Iowa University at Iowa City.

First Teachers

Isaac Overkamp and James Muntingh, who were in the first group of emigrants who came to Pella, were the first teachers in the town. Members of the colony and those who wrote later about the early days disagree about which of the two men deserves the title of "First Teacher in Pella." Both men invited children to their log-cabin homes to study and taught together in the Barn Church west of Central Park which was used for church on Sundays and for school on weekdays.

Isaac Overkamp

Isaac Overkamp, born in The Netherlands in February, 1810, was one of the leaders of the original Dutch colony which settled in Pella in 1847. He was a teacher in Holland and was appointed by Dominie H.P. Scholte to be the first schoolmaster in Lake Prairie township, according to **Souvenir History of Pella, Iowa, 1847-1922**. Before this appointment, he had a school in his log cabin in Pella, teaching both Dutch and English. During his lifetime, he held a variety of offices in Pella: township clerk, postmaster, mayor and city



OVERKAMP

treasurer. He had charge of a parochial school which opened in 1861 and was an elder of First Reformed Church. The Bible was one of his main interests, and for many years he conducted Bible classes for the young people of Pella. The author of **History of Marion County, Iowa** printed in 1881 says of him:

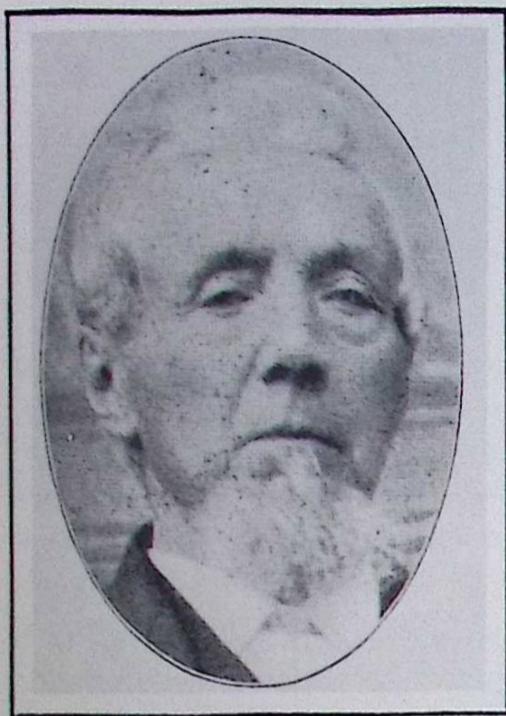
He is a man whose standard of morality is high, and whose convictions of duty are strong, and in all places and under all circumstances he is loyal to truth, honor and right, and he justly rates his own self-respect and the deserved esteem of his fellow citizens of more value than gold.

The author of **Souvenir History of Pella** wrote in 1922:

If there is one character in the history of the past generation that stands pre-eminent for great service and leadership in all that was best in the spiritual and educational life of the community, that pre-eminence justly belongs to Mr. Overkamp.

James Muntingh

James Muntingh, born in The Netherlands in 1820, was one of the first teachers in Pella to have a school in his log



MUNTINGH

cabin home. He arrived in Pella with the first group of emigrants and soon started a school which he operated for three years. When several people who had to work during the day asked him to help them study, he began night classes, which he continued even after he quit teaching during the day to operate a store. The biography about him in the **History of Marion County** printed in 1881, concludes:

He is no political aspirant, but has always manifested a commendable interest in public affairs and has served as a member of the city council and town clerk. His public spiritedness is evinced in the most substantial block in the city. But few men have a better record. He is known as a man of sterling integrity and decided character and his character as a business man may be inferred from the success which has attended his career. He married Miss Christine Anbert in 1843. She was born in Prussia.

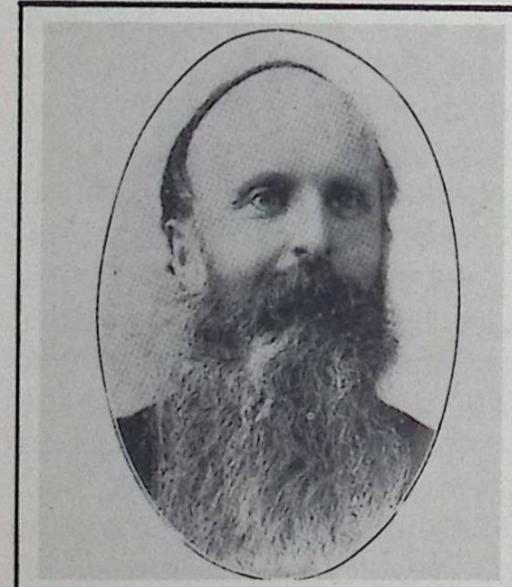
He was the first superintendent of the Sunday School of First Reformed Church in Pella. When Second Reformed Church was organized, he joined and was a member when he died.

C.C. Cory

C. C. Cory was superintendent of Pella schools from 1872 until January, 1887 when he resigned to take charge of the State Industrial School at Mitchelville. He was born in Vermont in September, 1833 and received his education at Derby Academy. He married Mary Moran in Vermont in 1857 and taught school in Vermont before coming to Pella in the 1860's to teach in the grammar department at Central College. He was interested in music and spent much time organizing and presenting amateur music concerts. Professor John Nollen said of Mr. Cory:

He gave the longest and in many respects the most important term of service in the history of the Pella schools. Under his administration the grading of the schools was further improved, the High School established, and the handsome new building (Webster School) erected.

Mr. Cory reported that exactly 100 young people graduated from Pella High School while he was superintendent. When he resigned in December, 1886, the school board voted to give him the chair which he had used in the school room "as a token of remembrance." The Corys had two children, a son, Fred, and a



C. C. CORY

daughter, Hattie Foraker. Cory died in 1897.

Lillie Viersen



LILLIE VIERSEN

Lillie Viersen taught in the Pella schools for 52 years — longer than anyone else. She began teaching in the fall of 1875 and retired in 1928, spending most of those years teaching first grade at Lincoln. She probably was the first Pella teacher who was born in Pella.

Her parents were A. H. Viersen and Henrietta Roelofsz who were children in the first group of immigrants that came to Pella in 1847. Miss Viersen, her parents and her 11 brothers and sisters lived in the first brick house built in Pella. It was constructed by her grandfather, Dr. Roelofsz, on Lot 3, Block 4 in the original town of Pella, now 1008 and 1010 Main Street. A replica of the house is attached to the south side of the Scholte Church in the historical village. Lillie obtained the title to the house in 1889; she probably bought out the inheritance rights of her brothers and sisters.

Lillie was the second child, the oldest daughter, in the family. Her next sister was Mary who taught in the Pella schools for three years. She helped to rear several nieces and nephews, supplementing her teacher's pay by giving piano lessons at her home. In 1893 the School Board gave her permission to use the organ at Webster for private music lessons.

Toward the end of her teaching career and after her retirement, she wore a huge black hearing aid on her bosom. In 1980 there are still people in Pella who remember the energetic Miss Viersen and describe her as "a rotund little lady bouncing around town."

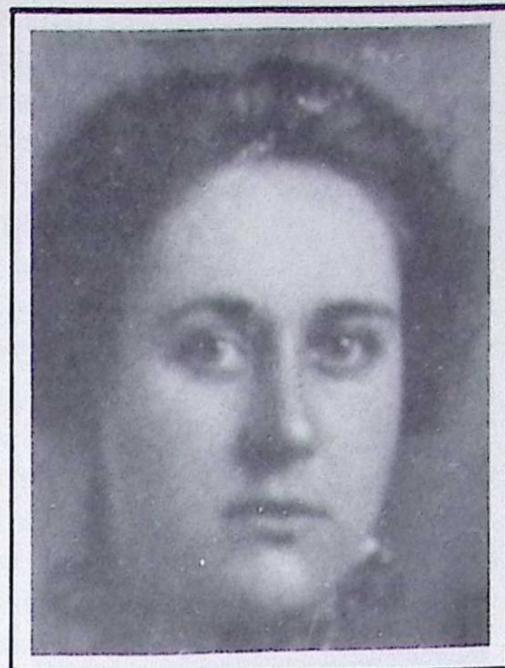
When she was angry with her pupils, she would scold them in Dutch, the language which usually was spoken in her home when she was growing up.

She was completely dedicated to her teaching and gave almost all of her time to her pupils. When it was time to prepare a school play, she invited the children to her home to practice, and she was the one who stitched up the little costumes which the children wore. Bob Klein, PHS Class of 1934, recalled going to her home to try on the little elf costume she made for him in 1922 when he was a first grader.

After her retirement, she moved to Oklahoma to make her home with one of her nieces.

Ver Heul Teaching Quartette

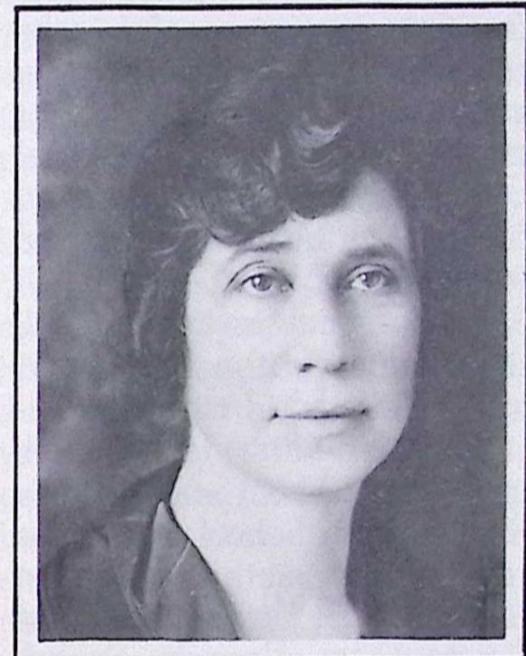
The only quartette of sisters to teach in the Pella schools were Kate, Martha, Edna and Henrietta Ver Heul whose grandfather, Kryn Ver Heul Sr., came to the United States with the group of Dutch immigrants who sailed from Holland with Dominie Scholte in 1847. The sisters were among the first Pella natives to become teach-



KATE VER HEUL



MARTHA VER HEUL



HENRIETTA VER HEUL

ers in Pella. Henrietta still lives in Pella at 909 West Third Street.

Kryn Ver Heul and his family (which included the Ver Heul sisters' father, Kryn Junior) stayed in New Jersey until 1857 when they moved to Pella.

The nine children in Kryn Junior's family attended Park School. The family was bilingual, speaking Dutch at home and English in school. Five of them graduated from Pella High, called Webster High School at that time. One of the sisters went to a private sewing school in a house near the square.

Kate taught in the Pella schools for 32 years, Martha for 47 years, Henrietta for 38 years and Edna for only one year. Sometimes, there was another Ver Heul teaching in the Pella schools because their sister, Elizabeth, was a frequent substitute.

Kate, born in 1878, graduated from PHS in 1897. She took tests at the county school superintendent's office in Knoxville and received a certificate to teach in rural schools, which she did for five years, going to summer school at Iowa State Teachers' College in Cedar Falls. In 1902, she began teaching primary at Lincoln, a position she held until she retired in 1934. She died in 1955.

Martha graduated from PHS in 1899, passed the tests for a rural school teacher's certificate, and, like her older sister, taught in rural schools in the area around Pella, taking college work in summer school and by correspondence.

From 1904 to 1945 she taught in Pella, either Lincoln or Webster. In 1912, because of poor health, she took a leave of absence, but her pupils still had a teacher named Ver Heul. A sister, Edna, took the job for one year. Martha was principal at Lincoln for several years. She took college classes while she was teaching and was graduated from Central College in 1936. She died in 1965.

Henrietta, who was thought of as "the math and Latin

teacher at Pella High School" by students from 1916 to 1954, decided that she loved math when she was a second grader at Park School and always got "100" on her arithmetic papers.

She skipped the sixth grade, graduated from PHS in 1905, received the full scholarship to Central College which was given each spring to the top graduate at PHS, and attended Central for two years. She taught North Porterville Rural School for two years, doing all of the extra things then expected of teachers in the country schools, and also studied at Central College. "The professors were wonderful," she recalled. "For two years, they gave me my assignments and let me go to their homes for special conferences so that I could finish all of the classes I needed for my junior year of college." She went back to being a full-time student in the fall of 1909 and graduated in 1910.

Henrietta's first teaching job in a town school was at New Sharon High School where she taught Latin, math and German in 1911-1912. The next year, she taught Latin, German, English and algebra at Hawarden High School.

In the summer of 1916, the mother of the four teachers was in frail health, and Henrietta quit teaching to stay home with her. But the woman who had been hired to teach math at the high school decided not to take the position and Henrietta was asked to substitute for a while. Henrietta Ver Heul's substituting assignment turned into a permanent one lasting from 1916 to her retirement in 1954.

At PHS, she taught English, algebra, German, Latin and geometry. She was first sponsor of the PHS chapter of National Honor Society.

"Discipline wasn't a matter of much concern," Miss Ver Heul recalled almost a quarter of a century after her retirement. "Parents always upheld

parents, brothers and sister. Several of her first grade classmates in 1912 could not speak English.

By 1971 when Miss Ver Steeg retired from teaching in that same school, the philosophy, "Forget about being Dutch," had changed. In the 1930's Dutch folk games became a part of the school's physical education curriculum, children were learning Dutch songs for Tulip Time, and they were all required to dress up in Dutch outfits to march in the annual Tulip Time parade. In the 1950's Miss Ver Steeg was encouraged to teach Dutch to the children. For two years she taught an hour of Dutch each week in her fourth grade classroom.

A big event for elementary school children after 1915 was preparing a program to be staged at the new high school auditorium. "There was great rivalry between Lincoln and Webster Schools to top the other one," she said. Admission was charged, and the money was used to buy extra things needed in the schools.

Miss Ver Steeg attended seventh and eighth grades in what was called the junior high school, on the second floor of Webster School. In the fall of 1919 she enrolled as a freshman at Pella High School. Her high school memories include class parties and picnics, debate and declamatory contests, typing contests, music assemblies once a week, spelling tests, a ukulele club, weekly chapel, school plays, Hi-Tri Club, and the Normal Training course in which she was enrolled. She was a member of the class of 1924 which had 46 graduates, the largest class in the history of the school up to that time.

Miss Ver Steeg won the scholarship which Central College gave each year to the top graduate and enrolled in the teacher-training program there. After her freshman year, she got a job teaching in a rural



DENA VER STEEG

the teachers."

During her early years of teaching at PHS, she played the cornet in the high school orchestra. Outside of school, she was active in the Methodist Church which used to exist in Pella and belonged to PEO sisterhood. Her hobbies were sewing and writing poetry.

Dena Ver Steeg Pupil and Teacher

Interview with Dena Ver Steeg, student or teacher in or around Pella, 1911 to 1971. ELH

Dena Ver Steeg remembers that a basic philosophy of teachers was "Forget about being Dutch — you are Americans," when she began attending kindergarten in Lincoln School in 1911. She was five and the building was seven years old.

When she started to school, Dena was bi-lingual, always speaking Dutch to her grandparents and usually using English at home with her

school, European #1, for \$75 a month. She went to Central another year and earned a two-year teacher's certificate then went to Liberty Corner rural school near Otley where she earned \$90 a month, teaching all eight grades.

In 1928 she started teaching fifth grade at Lincoln, and with summer school and correspondence courses earned her degree summa cum laude from Central in 1936 with a major in Latin. By the time she retired in 1971, she had taught various combinations of grades from third through fifth, but usually fourth. She was a teaching principal at Lincoln for 19 of those years. "I had no office and no secretary, but I earned an extra \$5 a month," she said.

Twenty-year Teachers

This is a list of all of the people who taught in the Pella public schools at least 20 years with a short biography of most of them. Teachers who came into the Pella system at the time of reorganization (1958) are included if their rural school experience in areas now in the district added to their Pella years total 20 or more years.

Bevan

Darlene Bevan graduated from Knoxville High School, attended Central and Penn Colleges and graduated from Drake University. She taught in rural schools in Spring Dale and Pleasant Grove districts before she began teaching in the Pella schools in 1958. She retired in 1979.

Bootsma

Dora Bootsma retired in 1940 after working in the Pella

School system for 47 years as a teacher or principal. She graduated from Pella High School, and took the required tests for a teacher's certificate in about 1894, then taught in the elementary grades until she became principal and teacher of Lincoln School in 1908. In 1916, she moved to Webster School and was principal there until her retirement, helping to organize the concept of a junior high school for the seventh and eighth graders who were on the second floor of the building.

Bogaard

Mabel Bogaard graduated from the Normal Training course of Pella High School in 1929 and began teaching in a rural school near Reasnor. A Dutch family had just moved into the district, and the school board wanted to hire a teacher who could speak both Dutch and English. Later, she taught in the South Porterville School which became a part of the Pella Community School District and in a rural school near Oskaloosa. In 1937, she was married, and according to the school board policy of the period, quit teaching. In 1950, when her husband was killed in an accident, she went back to teaching, and continued work on her college degree with courses at Central, Penn, Iowa State Teachers' College, Iowa State University and Drake, where she earned her degree. She taught in Pella from 1961 until February, 1974 when she retired.

Brooks

Bessie Brooks retired in 1938 after teaching for 37 years in the Pella schools, usually in first or second grades at Webster. She taught in rural schools in the area before she joined the Pella teaching staff. She was ac-

tive in the Baptist Church while she lived in Pella.

Buerkens

C. C. Buerkens, superintendent from 1937 to 1964. Story on page 42.

Dockendorff

Helene Dockendorff was born in Page County in 1913, graduated from Amity High School and earned her bachelor's degree from Drake University after attending college at Tarkio, Mo., Central College and College Springs, Ia. In 1948, the superintendent called her two weeks before school started to ask if she would teach the kindergarten and some music classes "temporarily" until he could find a permanent teacher. She enjoyed what she was doing and stayed with the job for 26 years. She continued giving private piano lessons during that time and was in her church choir and the community orchestra. A project she started which continues to be a part of kindergarten in Pella is the making of a hand plaque for each child.

Doorenbos

Ray Doorenbos was born in Morrison, Illinois in 1921, graduated from high school there and came to Pella to teach the naval cadets stationed on the Central College campus during World War II. He received his bachelor's degree from Central and his master's from University of South Dakota. Other colleges he attended were Drake, Iowa State, Dowling, University of Toledo and University of Northern Iowa. He has taught math and electronics classes at PHS since 1956 and has been one of the junior class sponsors almost every year. His

out-of-school interests are electronics, plant propagation, woodworking, oil painting, leather tooling and photography.

Emmert

Keith Emmert was born in Killduff in 1922, graduated from Sully High School and Central College and has a master's degree from Drake. He began teaching Pella's seventh and eighth graders in 1949 and has been teaching them ever since. He has taught in four different buildings, first as a junior high teacher, then as a middle school teacher. His hobbies are woodworking and photography. He was instrumental in changing the salary policy in the Pella schools which, when he came, called for high school teachers to be paid a higher salary than teachers in junior high or elementary schools.

Frush

Frank M. Frush, superintendent from 1906 to 1937. Story on page 41.

Gosselink

Anna Mae Gosselink, a native of Pella, graduated from Pella High School and Drake University. She taught in rural schools in the area for 19 years and in Pella for 17 years, one year in second grade at Lincoln and 16 years in second grade at Webster. Her special out-of-school interests are traveling and reading.

Gosselink

Jane Gosselink, high school teacher from 1923 to 1937; principal from 1937 to 1963; part-time counselor from 1963 to 1968. Story on page 47.

Groendyke

John Groendyke taught science in Pella High School longer than anyone else — from September of 1930 to June of 1969. When he retired, he commented that approximately 95 percent of the material he was teaching the last year was not known or was not included in high school textbooks when he started 39 years earlier. Groendyke was born in Hospers, Iowa in 1902 and graduated from Sheldon High School. He attended college at William Penn, Central and Iowa State, graduating from Central. Before coming to Pella, he taught at Attica Consolidated High School and at Sioux Center High School. He sponsored a science club for several years whose members did various types of experiments and often prepared assembly programs for their fellow students. When he started teaching at PHS, physics was a required course for seniors. Biology and chemistry were elective courses, given in alternate years. Since his retirement, he has done a little bit of substitute teaching but devotes most of his time to gardening, music and carpentry.

Harmsen

Jennie Harmsen, born November 6, 1866 in Pella, went to the Pella schools. She attended Central College and began teaching in the Pella schools in 1902 when she was 35 years old and taught until her retirement in 1937. She moved into the Home for the Aged, now called Fairhaven, and lived there until she died at the age of 83 in April, 1950. Her obituary in the Pella Chronicle said, "She was a kind and unassuming person who endeared herself to all who came in contact with her and thus her friends were legion."

Marie Lautenbach

Marie Lautenbach was born in Pella in August, 1880, attended the schools of Pella, graduated from Pella High School and attended State Teachers' College in Cedar Falls and Central College in Pella where she graduated in 1932. She taught in rural schools of the area and then in the Pella schools from 1903 to 1941. She was a member of First Baptist Church, PEO Sisterhood, and the Professional Women's Club. She served on the board of Carnegie-Viersen Library, sang in a church choir and taught Sunday School classes. She died in 1963 at the age of 82.

Lee

Doris Lee was born in Lincoln, Neb. in 1909 and graduated from Attica High School in 1925. When she began teaching at Fair Oaks Rural School in 1927, her only training was a summer of Normal Training and four semester hours of correspondence courses. She attended summer school, Saturday classes and night classes and took correspondence courses until she finally got a bachelor's degree from Drake in 1957. She took the course in practice teaching that is required to earn a degree in education after she had been teaching for 25 years. In 1967, she received her master's degree from Drake. In 1960-61, she was given a year's leave of absence so that she could teach in the American Dependents' School in Munich, Germany. The rest of her 47-year teaching career was spent in Otley, the rural schools which later became part of the Pella Community School District or in Pella Junior High School. She coached junior high plays for several years and was a part-time counselor at the high

school. Since her retirement in 1974, one of her special interests has been teaching English to Laotians and Koreans living in Pella.

Renaud

Mary Renaud taught in the Pella schools for 34 years from 1886 to 1920.

Reuvers

Leona Reuvers Mullins taught first or second grade from 1908 to May, 1954.

Ruthven

Jim Ruthven was born in Sioux City in 1916, graduated from Ruthven High School, received a bachelor's degree from Iowa State Teachers College in Cedar Falls and a master's degree from University of Iowa. Before coming to Pella to teach, he taught in Douds-Leando Consolidated School, Morning Sun Consolidated School and Eddyville Independent School and served in the Army Air Corps from 1943 to 1945. He coached and taught shop classes in Pella High School from 1948 to 1976 when he resigned to work at Pella Rolscreen.

Sayler

Lois Sayler, born in Springview, Neb., taught in Mallard, Randall, Stanhope, Glenwood, and Winterset before coming to Pella in 1945 to teach commercial subjects. She graduated from West High in Des Moines and earned a bachelor's degree from Drake University and a master's degree from University of Iowa. For most of the years that she was teaching at Pella High School, she was the business manager of the Dutch Village which was set up each Tulip Time in the gymnasium of what is now the Community Center. She organized the Commercial Club and was its advisor.



AFTER A DAY in the classroom in the 1940's this group of teachers, which includes Helene Dockendorff, Marjorie King, Eva Mae Van Wyngarden and Dena Ver Steeg, posed for a picture.

Schippers

Joyce Schippers taught a total of 20 years in the Pella schools and schools in the surrounding rural areas. She was born in Washington, Iowa in 1929, graduated from Richland High School, attended William Penn College and Drake University and graduated from Central College. She began her teaching in McKinney Rural School in Jasper County in 1947 and later taught in Amsterdam, Bunker Hill, Galesburg and Silver Grove before she became a teacher in the Pella system. She taught four years at Otley, then began teaching at Lincoln. Her out-of-school interests are animals (horses, cows, dogs and cats), fishing and her family.

Tysseling

Ann Tysseling (1907-1975) taught music in the Pella schools for 40 years, longer than anyone else. It was her production of the operetta "Tulip Time" at PHS in 1937 which inspired the town's

residents to have a festival to go with the production. The operetta was first staged in the high school auditorium, then was moved to the band stand on the north side of the square (where the fountain is now) to accommodate the large crowds that wanted to see it. A Tulip Time queen was elected, and an important tradition in the town was born.

Ann graduated from Pella High School in 1924 and from Central College in 1928. Later, she did graduate work at Iowa University and Drake. She taught music in the New Sharon schools from 1928 to 1932 when she started teaching vocal music in her home town. She organized vocal groups at PHS each year, chorus, glee clubs, trios, quartets and octets which gave programs in the school and the community and in surrounding towns. One group, called "Three Little Girls in Blue," sang regularly on radio station WHO in Des Moines. She was in charge of weekly music assemblies at the high school and directed an operetta almost every year plus training stu-

dents for contests and for All-State chorus. Some years, as many as three of her quartets from PHS were selected for the All-State group.



ANN TYSSELING

She went to Lincoln and Webster Schools regularly, adding Leighton and Otley to her schedule in 1958 when the Pella Community District was organized. For several years, she directed elementary school children in Tulip Time programs presented on the square before the annual parade started.

In 1961, she received a Valley Forge Freedom Foundation award as an outstanding teacher. In 1965, she turned the high school vocal music program over to someone else and devoted all of her time to the elementary music program. She retired in 1972, and in 1973, she was honored as the recipient of the Distinguished Alumni Award of Central College.

Tysseling

Bertha Tysseling came from Holland to Pella in 1865 when she was about 12 years old. She taught 24 years in the elementary grades, retiring in 1909. In addition to being a school

teacher, she sometimes worked as a bookkeeper at Puritan Drug Store.

Vander Linden

Ruth Vander Linden was born in Pella in 1911, graduated from Pella High School and attended Central College. She worked in the telephone office before becoming a rural school teacher in the Liberty Corner School. Later she taught at Silver Grove Rural School and then fifth grade at both Lincoln and Webster Schools. She graduated from Drake University. For a while, she helped with the fifth grade band. She retired in 1976.

Van Hemert

Thelma Van Hemert retired in 1967 after teaching a total of 27 years. She was born in Eddyville in 1900, graduated from Eddyville High School, went to William Penn College and began teaching in Givin rural schools in 1921. She also taught in Valley Rural School near Pella and was teaching in Otley in 1958 when Pella Community School District was formed. She received her bachelor's degree from Drake University in 1960. From 1961 until her retirement, she was teaching fifth grade at Lincoln or Webster Schools. Her out-of-school interests have been teaching Bible School and Sunday School and serving as a volunteer at the Veterans' Administration Hospital in Knoxville.

Van Roekel

Betty Vande Haar Van Roekel taught for a total of 22 years in the Pella schools and the rural

schools in the area which became a part of the Pella Community School District. She took the normal training course for rural school teachers when she was a student at Pella High School and began teaching at Black Oak Center School when she was 18 years old. She taught all eight grades for three years, then married and reared two children, Joyce and Harley. In 1953, she went back to teaching and taught at Wheat Grow, Plain View and Flint Ridge schools before she began teaching third grade at Lincoln School. Later she taught third grade at Webster School. She decided that she wanted a college degree and attended classes on Saturdays, in night school and at summer school plus correspondence courses until she earned a bachelor's degree from Drake University in Des Moines in 1965. Because of ill health, she retired in the fall of 1973.

Ver Heul

Ver Heul, Henrietta - Taught in Pella 1916 to 1954.

Ver Heul, Kate - Taught in Pella 1902 to 1934.

Ver Heul, Martha - Taught in Pella 1904 to 1946.

A story on Pella's only quartet of teaching sisters is on page 51.

Ver Steeg

Dena Ver Steeg was born in Pella in 1906, graduated from the Normal Training program at Pella High School in 1924, and taught in European Number One (Bell School) and Liberty Corner before she began teaching at Lincoln School in 1928 while working on her college degree. She retired in 1971.

A story about her memories of going to school and teaching in Pella is on page 52.

Lillie Viersen

Lillie Viersen taught in the Pella schools for 52 years — longer than anyone else. She began teaching in the fall of 1875 and retired in 1928. A story about her is on page 50.

Waal

Faith Waal taught in Leighton from 1958, the first year that Pella Community School District operated, until the spring of 1979. She was born in Moscow, Iowa in 1913 and graduated from Oskaloosa High School. She attended Drake University, Northwest Missouri State Teachers' College and William

Penn College, graduating from William Penn. From 1932 to 1940, she taught in Spring Valley, Star and Brush Creek rural schools, then stayed home to rear her son and daughter and help her husband on the farm before returning to teaching in 1958. Her special out-of-school interests are church activities, gardening, working with wood and family activities.

Wilkins

Jean Wilkins - High School teacher from 1949 to 1952; principal from 1952 to 1979. Story is on page 47.

Teacher Deaths

Mrs. Evelyn Johnston, who died in the spring of 1965, pro-

bably was the only teacher who ever died during the school year while employed as a teacher in Pella. She died suddenly at her home on a Sunday morning while she was studying her Sunday School lesson. She was in her fifth year of teaching at Pella Community High School where she taught English, Latin and French and was the sponsor of the Latin Club. Bonnie Vander Linden, who was Mrs. Johnston's student teacher from Central College that year, taught the French classes for the remainder of the year, and Miss Zola Kramme, a retired Latin teacher from Oskaloosa, took the Latin classes.

Mrs. Hazel Reeves died suddenly during the summer of 1968 after teaching various grades at Otley for eight years. She had signed a contract to teach the following year. Her son, Guy Reeves, began teaching social studies at Pella High School the following fall.



TEACHERS' WORKROOM at Pella High School in 1977.

List of Teachers

*By J. B. Dahm and
Barbara Vander Werff*

The earliest teachers of whom we have records, date back to 1870, at which time C.C. Cory and William H. Post were the teachers. John H. Stubenrauch taught for two years from 1872 to 1874.

A few records are missing

and there are no doubt some oversights and perhaps a few duplications in tabulating the names and years served, but by and large this is a complete composite record.

This list includes superintendents and principals and anyone considered a professional educator for his or her time. Teachers who served as administrators have the total

length of time served after their names.

Generally, the teachers are listed in the order in which they were hired. Dates in the list show when the next person in the list began teaching in Pella. Names of people on the staff in September, 1979, are marked with an asterisk. The number of years served by each teacher follows the name.

Wm. H Post - 5	H. J. Hancock - 6	1901
John H. Stubenrach - 2	Ettie Vande Kamp - 5	Bessie Brooks - 37
Metta Shaw - 14	Flora R. Hopson - 5	Gertrude Versteeg - 2
Orpha Alexander - 6	Jennie Rynsburger - 12	1903
Bertha Stoddard - 3	Luella Shaw - 3	Kate Ver Heul - 30
A. Reynolds - 6	Lura M. Spencer - 3	1904
Edith Stoddard - 12	H. H. Garber - 1	Marie Lautenbach - 37
1865	Mary Firth - 1	Julia Van Zante - 6
C. C. Cory - 22	Lena Braam - 10	Ethel M. Cowan - 1
1887	Lizzie Kempkes - 5	Faye B. Culbertson - 3
Bertha Tysseling - 24	Alice Vander Zyl - 4	Lynn S. Anderson - 4
Mary Forsythe - 9	Anna Strickland - 2	W. C. Farmer - 4
Anna Masch - 8	Bessie Kennedy - 2	Martha Ver Heul - 36
Gerald Baron - 4	Josephine Beaner - 2	Anna Vander Ploeg - 2
1876	Mary Bennink - 4	Dorothy Wormhoudt - 16
Lillie Viersen - 52	Ava K. Clement - 2	H. C. Roelofsz - 1
Alice West - 6	Frank W. Shutts - 1	Buelah Druker - 1
Lizzie Earl - 3	Isabel Sharp - 1	Jessie A. Butterfield - 1
Anna Bowen - 3	Albert Vander Ploeg - 2	Ada B. Montgomery - 2
M. V. Davenport - 6	1886	F. M. Frush - 1
Lulu A. Monohon - 3	Mary Renaud - 34	Elizabeth Gezel - 1
Adda Monohon - 11	Dora Bootsma - 47	Leona Vander Linden - 2
Dora H. Kruidenier - 6	Anna Dickey - 2	Flora Kester - 2
Cornelia Vander Linden - 14	Mrs. A. G. Maasdam - 1	Jessie Parish - 1
Mary A. Johnson - 3	Eleanor Cully - 1	Carrie L. Cox - 4
Anna De Haan - 4	Willard Lyon - 1	Lynn Platt - 2
Mary Viersen - 3	Jessie Brown - 1	Lillie Mick - 1
Minnie Edmond - 3	Kate De Haan - 5	Sarah M. Story - 6
Luella McCulley - 8	Carrie Edmond - 3	Ada M. French - 1
Julia Welch - 13	Hattie Higley - 1	Ruth Gist - 1
Lydia Welch - 5	Bessie Bootsma - 7	Blanche Ayers - 1
Maggie G. Hamilton - 6	W. J. Versteeg - 1	Aunnis B. Marshal - 1
Sallie Martin - 6	Cornelia Rynsburger - 4	1912
W. W. Koek - 6	Ana Wormhoudt - 1	Leona Reuvers - 42
1902	Winifred Rhodes - 1	Loretta Bower - 1
Jennie Harmsen - 35	Sara Lautenbach - 2	May E. Duryee - 1
Minnie Keran - 5	Flora D. Batten - 2	Eva B. Hayes - 2
C. M. Thompson - 5	Mrs. May Edmand Mair - 2	Manue Zaelke - 5
Nora E. Boswell - 5		Muril Leland - 1
Ida M. Ross - 5		Katherine Rietveld - 2

Joe Faasen - 2	Mrs. F. M. Frush - 8	Florence Larson - 4
Wm. Pietenpol - 1	Marie Evans - 3	Peter Merkel - 1
Hazel Verhey - 1	Alma Abraham - 1	Richard Lewis - 5
Harriet Rietveld - 2	Helen F. Kith - 2	Genevieve Myrick - 4
Grace Hill - 1	Geraldine Aschenbrenner - 1	Ermina Beman - 5
Carolyn Conger - 2	Isabel Ramsay - 1	Raymond Bishop - 9
Helen Thomas - 1	Wm. F. Brunia - 3	Helen Kuyper - 3
Marie Lefeber - 9	James W. Reed - 1	1931
Maude Andrews - 2	Grace M. Sterling - 1	John Groendyke - 38
Ester Hansen - 1	Phyllis Swanberg - 1	Grace Wesselink - 3
Wilma Lawrence - 2	E. Jean Bonar - 3	Vera D. Hartman - 1
Ella M. Watt - 1	Dorothy Gibson - 1	Hilda Palmquist - 5
Carrie De Haan - 2	Theo Hafner - 2	1932
Anna A. Bailey - 1	Elsie L. Johnson - 1	Anna Tysseling - 40
Anna Hospers - 2	Estelle Kuyper - 1	Leonora Hartman - 7
Ora F. King - 1	Arthur Olliver - 1	Margaret Miner - 7
Ruth E. Shepherd - 1	Earl A. Manuel - 2	Clarence Wilkins - 5
Ora C. Brown - 3	Mark M. Tapscott - 1	Mae Plette - 11
Gladys Crisman - 2	Arthur Rosenbaugh - 1	Evelyn Dodson - 1
Mabel L. Jones - 4	Ester Albright - 1	Anna Verhey - 5
Carl Versteeg - 1	Willie Throckmorton - 1	Bernice De Reus - 5
Will J. Rynsburger - 1	Samuel Versteeg - 1	Marjorie Avery - 1
Edna Ver Heul - 1	Ivo Wimmer - 1	Earl Van Rees - 4
Margaret Vogelaar - 1	Grace Lewis - 1	Anna M. Schoenbohm - 3
Jeanette Bartlett - 1	Gladys Buerkens - 1	Dorothy Andersen - 1
C. E. Clark - 2	1923	Bernice Van Baren - 1
O. E. Chapman - 1	Jane Gosselink - 48	Evelyn Wiley - 1
Hattie Neyenesch - 4	Glenn L. Bute - 2	Florence Van Sittert - 7
Laura Verrips - 1	Claire Jewell - 6	Frances Leach - 1
Anna Grant - 14	C. Virginia Bailey - 1	M. M. Dockendorff - 8
Fred J. Ehrhardt - 1	Louise Hoadley - 1	Marie Healy - 7
Ethyl K. Guthrie - 4	Ruth Popejay - 1	Eleanor Jay - 1
Nita Fay Fleerier - 1	Florence Ohland - 7	Ethel Jackson Van Zante - 17
1915	Jennie Van Oostrum - 2	Ethyl Olson - 3
Henrietta Ver Heul - 39	Cressie Klein - 2	Robert Ruby - 3
Exie L. McQuilken - 1	R. C. Amidon - 9	Helen Hunter - 1
Hollis L. Byram - 2	Verna L. Halbert - 1	Donald Nutting - 6
Alice Fennema - 2	Hazel Fulriede - 2	Eva Purcell - 3
Genevieve Reinerton - 1	Marjorie Momyer - 1	Marjorie Lamb - 3
Charlotte M. Davidson - 1	Mrs. C. W. Hummel - 6	Pauline Tysseling - 5
B. L. Robbins - 1	Helen Vander Pol - 3	Helen Hopley - 5
Em. M. Hinton - 3	Nellie Popma - 5	Elnora Hepfinger - 5
P. A. Garrison - 1	Fred Van Dorninck - 1	Don Ruby - 1
George Van Zee - 1	Tena Doonwaard - 4	Charles Claypool - 4
1919	Irma Visser - 3	Evelyn Prange - 7
Mrs. C. Richardson - 13	Lucille Harrison - 1	Phyllis Lockhart - 1
Viola L. Krueger - 2	Lillian McFadden - 1	Anna Belle Beebe - 4
Venjamin Van Zee - 1	Francis B. Moore - 1	Maurice Birdsall - 4
M. J. Albert - 1	Mary Simons - 2	Carl Brown - 3
Sylvia Platt - 1	Wm. H. Marsh - 3	Ferne Crannell - 3
Francis Sayles - 2	Grace Pals Lautenbach - 17	Eleanor Hunt - 1
Wilhelmina Van Nimwegen - 1	1928	Genevra Faber - 2
Lucile Hudson - 1	Dena Versteeg - 43	Elizabeth Hyde - 2
Maxwell J. Harkness - 3	Elza T. Wisgerhoff - 1	Marian Streyceller - 2
Cloe Weldin - 1	Hugo Kuyper - 1	Virginia Milliken - 2
Martha Rugieter - 1	Geo. F. Sadler - 2	Ellsworth Miller - 1
Mary Bladon - 1	Prof Woodford - 1	Ruth Anderson - 1
Violet Read - 1	Lawrence Pederson - 1	Wm. Chesley - 2
Gladys Zieler - 1	Ruth Blake - 6	Kenneth Rankin - 1
Clara Waechter - 1	Thelma Kirkpatrick - 1	Ruth Gordon - 1

Joan Martrude - 1	Theresa Nieburg - 8	Julia Koehler - 1
Jeanette Stegens - 1	Milton Schulz - 2	Florence Van Maanen - 1
Marcia Tyson - 4	Eugene Andrew - 2	Colleen Renaud - 5
Ann Mackey - 2	Everett Vander Voort - 3	John Sabus - 4
Lloyd Gnagy - 3	Mary L. Vriezelaar - 1	Darlene Braam - 3
Robert Brittell - 3	Sarah Gosselink - 1	Audrey Kinser - 2
Ruth Swanson - 3	Marion Aalbers - 1	Amy Vander Schaaf - 3
Kenneth Decker - 2	W. E. Hughes - 2	Paul Severson - 1
Viretta Wisse - 1	*Dorothy Van Vark - 16	Cecil Vines - 5
Elaine Hummel - 2	Gilbert Demry - 1	Harlan Schafer - 1
Marie Welch - 1	Eva Mae Van Wyngarden - 8	Betty Koehler - 1
Electa Bender - 2	Edith DeWit - 1	Artie Van Zee - 4
Eleanor Barry - 3	Betty Stanley - 2	Theo Vermeer - 3
Elizabeth Davis - 1	Catherine Schoor - 1	Norman Annis - 3
Marilyn Plaehn - 2	Helene Dockendorff - 24	Louis Brunckhorst - 4
Jean Klein - 3	Edith Nickel - 1	Helen Jean Neuber - 1
Margery Driftmier - 2	Mrs. Gilbert Demry - 1	Donald Breisch - 2
Dorothy Newell - 2	Vera Cannaday - 1	*Dorothy Cook - 3
Ivadel Hansen - 2	Mrs. Gerald Stravers - 2	Jeannette Andeweg - 1
Marie Walsh - 1	Mrs. Don West - 1	1954
Harold Nehre - 3	E. C. Herrick - 1	Raymond Den Adel
Evelyn Edmund - 2	Mrs. Elmer De Winter - 1	Gloria Belle Forbes - 1
Margeretta Slobe - 5	Marjorie King - 1	Bob Omick - 3
Mrs. Don Davis - 1	Mrs. Leroy Stultz - 1	Frances Papich - 3
Iva Lee Vermillion - 2	Mrs. John Nikkel - 1	Lanella Post - 1
Deloris Culver - 1	1948	Margaret Robbins - 1
Louise Carter - 2	James Ruthven - 28	Leroy Stults - 3
Evelyn Sorenson - 2	Vera Vande Voort - 1	Donald Black - 1
Mary Glascock - 1	Martha Wilkins - 19	Shirley Borgman - 2
Margaret Horn - 2	Norman Johansen - 2	Ruth De Cook - 2
Phyllis Anderson - 2	Wm. Stewart - 2	Jo Ann Johnson - 1
Harriet Schiebley - 1	Jacob J. De Haan - 7	Mrs. Theo Klimstra - 1
Mary Jane Prothoroe - 1	Mrs. June Hughes - 2	Floyd Latham - 2
Mrs. Made McGee - 2	Joann Mullins - 1	Raymond Strackbeen - 1
Mildred Haney - 1	Neola Schuttinga - 2	Phyllis Visser - 1
Helen Hindman - 1	Mrs. Clarice Meyer - 1	Jeanette Vander Werff - 2
Mary Louise Reque - 1	Elma Hughes - 1	Harold Wortman - 2
Beulah Wright - 3	*Keith Emmert - 31	Luella Beving 1
Grace Franks - 1	Leota Foglesong - 1	Betty Black - 1
Renaud Rysdam - 3	Arline Chatburn - 1	Donald Black - 1
Lois Saylor - 23	Mrs. Mildred Sommers - 2	Rolene Breed - 1
Carrie Sellers - 1	Lucille Boyenga - 1	Jeanette Brunckhorst - 1
Dorothy Fairly - 1	Mrs. Madeline West - 2	*Raymond Doorenbos - 24
Kathryn Harrison - 1	Dean Crawford - 2	Sara Ann Gosselink - 1
Wilma Vickroy - 1	Merton Haynes - 2	Frances Halferdy - 1
Virginia McNabb - 2	Jean Wilkins - 30	Arlene Killion - 1
Donella Taylor - 1	Myrtle Evers - 3	Charlotte Klyn - 1
Louise Schnur - 1	Doris Gargas - 1	Ellen Kregel - 1
Margaret Reque - 1	Elmer Peterson - 1	Delores Lundy - 1
Donna Larson - 1	Mrs. Shirley Peterson - 1	Cleo McGhee - 1
Lois Warnock - 1	Henry Reysack - 5	Helen Neuber - 1
Mrs. John Frey - 1	John Smeltzer - 1	Carol Seebach - 1
Marcia Siefkas - 1	Cora Thomassen - 3	Jerry Stout - 1
Madeline Vrieselaar - 2	Clarence Ziegler - 2	Carol De Vries - 1
Mrs. John Vander Ploeg - 4	Mrs. Elna Ziegler - 2	Edgar Epperly - 4
Merna Spence - 1	Robert A. Robinson - 2	Roberta Hirschler - 1
Gilbert Demry - 1	Stan Borgman - 6	Harold James - 1
Marcella O'Mara - 2	Ernest De Cook - 3	Evelyn Johnston - 5
Marjorie Maroney - 1	Lois Grooters - 1	Donald Kolsrud - 2
Fred Whalley - 9	Merel Lee - 2	James Lorigan - 1

Denny Pace - 1	Leo Bowdish - 1	*John White - 16
Glen Sandbulte - 1	*Blanche Deal - 18	*Geneva Peebler - 15
James Shiley - 9	Marilyn Sandee - 2	Linda Coleman - 1
Dean Van Haaften - 2	Janice Knoot - 1	*Wilma Hoekstra - 15
Florence Bell - 1	*Merlyn Vander Leest - 18	Ellen Kregel - 1
Robert Conway - 2	Gladys Power - 7	Ann Smalley - 11
Treva De Jong - 1	Marla De Wild - 2	*Sumner Mapes - 17
Howard Den Hartog - 4	Pauline Kingery - 6	Edith Richardson - 9
Barbara Dieleman - 7	John Foster - 2	Mildred Van Roekel Vande Kieft - 8
Joyce Epperly - 4	*Johnita Van Wyk - 13	Kay Lineken - 1
Wayne Kelderman - 1	John Badger - 2	Karen Maas - 1
Albert Kohler - 2	Jerry Borger - 2	Velma Benes - 2
Faith Waal - 19	Donna Chadwick - 4	*Sara Caldwell - 15
Bertha Van Zante - 7	*Joyce Harter - 18	Darrell Dobenecker - 7
Rena Klein - 3	Gerald Miller - 5	Keith Gates - 4
Bertha Wittmer - 4	Mary Schulte - 1	*Bonnie Vander Linden - 15
Thelma Van Hemert - 7	*Ruth Allen - 15	Irene Wagamon - 9
Helen Adair - 5	Keith Hopp - 4	Tom Fitzgerald - 1
*Anna Mae Gosselink - 18	Mary Ellen McCormick - 2	Dennis Harmelink - 1
Hazel Reeves - 8	*Paul Ostrander - 18	Zola Kramme - 1
1958	Roland Simmelink - 1	1965
Darlene Bevan - 21	Patrick McMullen - 1	John Vruink - 1
1960	*Judy Bandstra Van Dusseldorf - 12	*Muriel Humphrey - 14
Ruth Vander Linden - 16	Julia Moen - 2	*Joan Walvoord - 14
Elizabeth Van Roekel - 14	Kay De Cook - 1	Bonnie Sue Adams - 1
Naomi Koob - 6	Jessie Lindsey - 16	Esther Hollenback - 1
Mabel Bogaard - 9	*Wilma Blom - 11	*Marjorie Vos - 14
Mildred De Cook - 13	Sidney Barrick - 4	Elsie Whalley - 9
Carolyn Blean - 1	Robert Anderson - 2	*Pauline Heerema - 14
Jeanine Fuller - 2	1962	Ellen Korsgaard - 1
Nancy Vander Meulen - 1	Lee Donnellan - 14	*Harriet Vanden Berg - 14
Ruth Horstman - 5	Leon Ray - 2	*Lois Allen - 14
Esther Reith - 4	Jerry Berglund - 1	Ann Fetzer - 4
Linda Gethman - 1	Edward Rathmell - 2	Marcia Fuhr - 1
Mildred Brown - 1	Mary Ruiter - 1	Helen Munsen - 1
Dorothea Wolf - 4	Stanley Schleuter - 2	*Ruth Squibb - 14
Katherine Stewart - 1	Roger Tweedt - 2	*Vivian Whitney - 14
Lois Appleget - 1	Wilma Vander Werff - 7	*Ruth Brummel - 12
Marlene Rempe - 1	Harold Nichless - 13	*Herma Cowell - 12
Roy Reith - 3	Christine Lubenow - 1	Arvin Bandstra - 10
Martha Hubbel - 5	Carol White - 14	Marian Harbaugh - 2
*Martha Paul - 17	Patricia Emmert - 6	*Ken Lucas - 14
*Joyce Schipper - 7	Willa Shaver - 1	*Helen Boertje - 14
Elaine Jaarsma - 1	Norma Harris - 1	1966
Sarah Harvey - 2	Kay Miller - 1	Verlan Den Adel - 6
Henry Borger, Jr. - 1	Barbara Butler - 5	James Elwell - 1
Jack Kensler - 2	*Gladys Sutherland - 16	Elmira Gibson - 1
Doris Lee - 14	*Kenneth Harter - 16	Ken Peterson - 3
Grace Scholten - 1	Sherrie May - 1	Sonja Valdes - 14
1961	Julia Rathmell - 1	Marcia Bremer - 1
Marie Shaefer - 10	Velma Wiegert - 1	Diane Wegeman - 1
Florence Bell - 3	James Danks - 2	Betty Barrick - 3
*Lavina Ruthven - 19	1964	Edith Ryken - 2
*David Bender - 19	Emma Lou Heusinkveld - 16	*Roberta Goemaat - 13
Russell Beyer - 1	M. F. Whitney - 9	Vicki Bowers - 4
Charles Burnett - 3	*Wilmer Kirschman - 16	Marcia De Prenger - 2
*Anthony Hoekstra - 19	Gerald Kuiper - 5	Karen Ulrich - 2
James Lorigan - 1	Gordon Miller - 1	Larry Miksell - 2
Carol Robinson - 1	Rosann Storjohan - 3	Delores Menning - 6
John Rowley - 1		

Don Baker - 8	Barbara Thomas - 1	Belinda Middleton - 1
Don Benes - 2	*Jacqueline Harvey - 1	*Marlene Hugen - 5
Marvin Sloan - 2	*Lorretta Randals Hyde - 10	*Janet Knoll - 5
*Nellie Terlouw - 17	Joyce De Jong - 4	*Don Roehr - 5
Audrey Terpstra - 6	Joyce Renskers - 3	Kathy Dykstra - 3
Linda Orr - 1	Ampara Carr - 2	*Rex Steddom - 10
Susan Bethell - 1	Tressa Lange - 1	*Carole Vink - 5
Catherine Benes - 1	Jerry Van Dalen - 3	Lawrence Anderson - 1
1967	*Dennis Brass - 9	*Linda Recker - 3
Jean Steffy - 10	Joan Lucas - 1	*Alice Jansma - 4
Phyllis Willems - 1	Cathie Mosier - 3	*Mary Glendening - 4
*Guy Reeves - 12	*Kathleen Lucas - 10	Sally Baar - 4
*Connie Hinga - 11	Linda Nollen - 2	*Jon Heddons - 4
Marcia Ten Clay - 3	*Dorothy Vander Leest - 7	*Allen Anderson - 4
Pat Witzenberg - 1	*Janice Hale - 8	*Wm. Lubach - 4
Carol Greenawald - 1	*Janice Neuring - 8	*Shirley Trow - 4
*Theola Van Arkel - 10	*Norris Hale - 8	Kathy Whitney - 1
Joyce Neerhof - 1	*Jerry Hirrschoff - 8	Coleen Dankenbring - 2
Sharon Larson - 3	*Jerry Krug - 7	David Dankenbring - 2
Diane McDowell - 1	*Orville Dunkin - 7	*Donald Trow - 4
*Muriel Kooi - 11	Maurice Mosier - 1	*Marla Kettler - 3
*Joyce Schippers - 11	Marisa Jones - 3	*Sue Peake - 3
Lois Gates - 2	*Donald Blair - 8	Teresa Eskes - 1
Elaine De Boef - 4	Mary Stout Woods - 3	Debbie Mosbach - 1
Pamela Friers - 1	Brenda Rose - 5	Kevin O'Hare - 2
*Ed Kooi - 11	Diane Bradley - 5	*Margene Van Horn - 3
*Carol Mapes - 10	*Rodney Wiersma - 7	1979
*Ronald Subbert - 11	Judy Steenhoek - 3	*Dorothy Cook Julian
*Karol Subbert - 11	Sharon Nervig - 1	*Jacquelyn Harvey
*Mary Wilkinson - 12	Marla Vos - 4	*Deborah Ross
*Fred Anthony - 11	*Kristine Gaulke - 6	*Gregg Renaud
*Mary Cox Dickinson - 11	*Karen Te Ronde - 6	*Alvin Van Roekel
Gene De Boef - 5	*Emily Thies - 6	*Max Squires
James Henderson - 3	Henry Jennings - 5	*Celia Heisterkamp
1971	*Frances Koehn - 6	*Jim Emmert
Karen Hesser - 4	Linda Longnecker - 1	*Dave Bensink
*Robert Kramer - 11	Maxine McConnell - 1	*Durward Carter
Diana Norman - 1	Kathy Angove - 2	*Omer Troyer
Randy Rumery - 3	*Katherine Bosquet - 6	*Jackie Van Wyk
Cathie Cunningham - 1	David Dozark - 1	
Pat Gillian - 1	Carolyn Johnson - 2	

*Teacher 1979-1980

Teachers From Holland

Based on *Geschiedenis van Pella, Iowa en Omgeving by Komer Van Stigt, published in Pella by Weekblad Drukkery in 1897. Written by Martha Lautenbach.*

There were several teachers among the pioneer immigrants. Among them in the year

1854 were listed Eysink and Nollen as teachers in the second degree. Henry Nollen, the third son of Nollen, was also a teacher in the second degree.

In the 1855 list, we find the name of Bastiaan Vermeulen as teacher in the third degree. He had been teaching in Pella for several years in the Holland language.

Pelmulder was teacher in the second degree and taught in the Skunk River district for a short time then became a farmer.

Henry Hospers came to America with the family of G.H. Overkamp. Under the leadership of I. Overkamp he was one of the first school teachers of the new colony. He taught a few years and then became a land agent in 1854. He was one of the pioneer settlers who moved to Sioux County in 1869.

H. Neyenesch, a teacher in the second degree, taught for 15 years in public schools, parochial schools and Central University.

Payday

When Pella High School began in 1876, the high school teachers were paid more than the elementary teachers. When the junior high school began in 1915, the teachers there earned less than the high school teachers but more than the elementary teachers. That policy was followed until the early 1950's when a group of junior high teachers resigned in protest. "We didn't know how it would turn out," said Keith Emmert, junior high teacher who was among those resigning. It turned out that the school board agreed with the teachers who had resigned, set up one salary schedule for all teachers and re-hired those who had resigned.

For many years the board followed the typical policy of school districts in Iowa and paid the men teachers more than they paid women teachers doing the same jobs. They dickered with each teacher to decide on pay, considering education, experience and comments from students and parents.

In 1920 the Iowa Department of Public Instruction required school districts to pay elementary teachers at least \$80 a month and high school teachers at least \$120 a month. Most rural teachers signed contracts in which the district promised to pay them "whatever the minimum pay is." During the depression years of the 1930's, teachers accepted a pay cut to help the school balance its budget.

The board set up a formal salary schedule for teachers in 1958 with a first-year teacher who had a college degree receiving \$3,800 a year. In 1965, the school board adopted a pay schedule based on an index figure of 100 for a teacher with a bachelor's degree and no teaching experience. The index

numbers on the schedule increase as teachers gain more years of experience and attain advanced college degrees. Since then, when a salary increase is given, it is done by increasing the base pay. The salaries of experienced teachers increase proportionately by multiplying the new base figure by the index number on the pay scale. Base pay for the 1979-1980 school year is \$10,940.

Sponsoring extra-curricular activities and clubs, coaching athletics, and directing plays were duties which went with the job of teaching at first. Gradually, coaches were given some extra money for their work, and in the late 1960's, teachers began receiving extra pay for such things as sponsoring the school paper or being the advisor for a club. The remuneration usually was approximately \$50 a year. About 1970, the school board worked out a percentage schedule for these duties, giving a teacher a certain percentage of his or her annual pay for coaching and other responsibilities. These percentages vary from two to ten.

Speaking of his salary, Ray Doorenbos, long-time math teacher at Pella High, has said, "Some days I have so much fun that I'd be here teaching even if they didn't pay me. Other days, I wonder why I'm here and feel that there really isn't enough money in the world to make proper payment for what I do."

Practice teachers

Student teachers from Central College, and occasionally from Iowa State University at Ames, are a part of life for students and teachers in the Pella schools from kindergarten through high school. Probably no student goes through the

Pella school system without having several student teachers.

Having student teachers (at first called practice teachers) in the classrooms began gradually. Before World War I, an occasional Central College student would show up in the Pella schools, on an informal basis to observe and sometimes to take over a class for a few days. College students who had not taught in a rural school were encouraged to do student teaching.

Until the mid 1930's, Iowa law permitted a college graduate to get a teacher's certificate without doing student teaching, which many people did. As state requirements tightened and Central's enrollment increased, the number of student teachers in the Pella schools increased. In the 1960's, the school board adopted a policy which stated that a pupil could have no more than one student teacher in any one school year.

From the time the normal training course was added to the high school curriculum in 1912 until it was dropped in 1942, high school students frequently went to rural schools in the surrounding area to observe or teach for a few days.

Foreign students

When children began going to school in the log cabin homes of some of the town's first settlers in 1847, there probably were only two native-born American children in the whole town. Some sources name a child who became Major Post as the only English-speaking child in school. Other sources say that the son of John B. Hamilton, one of the two American settlers who remained in the area after the Dutch colonists arrived, was the only native American child in school.

The Pella schools included a few native-born Dutch students almost continuously until World War II. A few families came in the 1950's. The last two Pella citizens born in Holland who graduated from PHS were Bill Kroes, Class of 1970, and Doug Oppenhuizen, Class of 1971. Both of them came to the United States with their families when they were pre-schoolers. Their older brothers and sisters, who were school age when they arrived in Pella, had tutors to help them learn the English language.

Another native Hollander who has a Pella High diploma is Jacqueline Fonteyn, Rotary exchange student in 1977-1978.

A few German and French immigrants were in the Pella schools and the rural schools in the surrounding areas in the 1890's. Their presence inspired one group of farmers to name their school district "European."

During World War II, some Japanese families were in Pella, and their children were in school.

Several students from Yucatan have been students in Pella since the town established a sister-city relationship with Muna, Yucatan in the 1960's. At about the same time, several Cuban families who were refugees from Castro's government, settled in the Pella area for a few years and enrolled their children in the schools.

When tens of thousands of refugees left Vietnam in the mid-1970's, several families came to Pella where some of the children still are in school. Later there were children from Thailand, Taiwan and Laos. Special classes and tutoring has helped these Oriental children fit into the Pella schools.

Some foreign students have come to Pella to live with a relative and attend school. Wilkie Chen from Hong Kong was here in 1962 and 1963 while his brother was a student

at Central College. Fusao Kujima came from Japan in 1979 to live with an aunt and attend high school.

In the 1979-80 school year, there are 41 children in the Pella public schools and eight in the Christian schools who speak English at school and another language at home. Countries represented are: Laos, 21; Vietnam, 13; Korea, 5; Greece, 2; China, 2; Thailand, 1; Japan, 2; Phillipines, 1; Europe, 2. These figures do not include several foreign exchange students and children who have been adopted into English-speaking homes.

At least one foreign exchange student has been at PHS each year since 1964. Names, dates of arrival and countries of the students are:

AFS STUDENTS

(American Field Service)

- 1964 - Ann Davies, England
- 1965 - Dario Donalo, Argentina
- 1966 - Wanlop (Wally) Chandarsi, Thailand
- 1967 - Soila Aaltonen, Finland
- 1968 - Delilah (Dolly) Frogoso, Philippines
- 1969 - Simonetta Muzzini, Italy
- 1970 - Elizabeth Ugalda, Costa Rica
- 1971 - Pablo Mier Carron, Bolivia
- 1972 - Anne Robertson, South Africa
- 1973 - Puerita Tejero, Spain
- 1974 - Bergen Skaland, Norway
- 1975 - Jenny Schmidt, Brazil
- 1976 - Magnus Fredriksson, Sweden
- 1977 - Mercedes Auso Pinto (Two Cars), Venezuela
- 1978 - Lisa Dean, Australia
- 1979 - Chico Kanemaru, Japan
- 1979 - Gianni Ruvidotti, Italy

ROTARY EXCHANGE STUDENTS

- 1967 - Miguel Schapira, Argentina
- 1977 - Jacqueline Fonteyn, Holland
- 1979 - Steve Olsen, New Zealand

Teaching can be Family Affair

Many of the teachers who have taught in the Pella schools were related to others teaching in Pella at the same time or another time. Finding such information for a complete account of these relationships is impossible, but here are some of the family connections in the list of Pella teachers.

Kate Ver Heul, who graduated from Pella High School in 1897, taught in rural schools and then in Pella from 1905 to 1941. Her two younger sisters did the same thing with Martha teaching in Pella from 1903 to 1933 and Henrietta from 1916 to 1954. Another sister, Edna, taught for one year, 1914. A fifth sister, Elizabeth, frequently substituted in the Pella schools.

Bertha Tysseling, who taught in 1908 and 1909, was an aunt of Ann Tysseling who was a music teacher in Pella from 1931 to 1972. Pauline Tysseling, who taught for three years between 1937 and 1950, was Anne's sister-in-law.

Marie Lautenbach, who taught from 1904 to 1941, was a sister of Sara, teaching from 1901 to 1913. Through marriage, these teachers were related to Grace Pals Lautenbach who taught from 1951 to 1969 and to Jane Gosselink, who taught from 1937 to 1968. The husband of Anna Mae Gosselink, who is teaching now, was Jane's cousin.

Bessie Boatsma, who taught from 1900 to 1907, and Dora Boatsma, who taught from 1924 to 1941, were sisters. Lillie Viersen, Pella's record-holder for length of teaching (1876 to 1928), had a sister, Mary, who taught from 1892 to 1895.

Gladys Buerkens Moon, sister of long-time superintendent Buck Buerkens, taught for one year in Pella.

A pair of brothers who taught in Pella High School were Ray Den Adel, who taught Latin in 1954 and 1955, and Verlan, who taught math from 1966 to 1972.

Gertrude Ver Steeg, a teacher in the early 1900's, had two nephews and a niece teaching at various times in Pella. They were Samuel, 1923-24; Carl, 1914-15, and Dena, 1928 to 1971.

Mrs. F. M. Frush, whose husband was an administrator in the Pella schools longer than anyone else, substituted for several years and was a regular teacher for eight years in the 1920's. They probably were the first husband-wife teaching team in Pella. Twenty-eight couples have taught in the Pella

schools since then, usually at the same time but in different schools.

Hazel Reeves, who taught in Otley from 1960 to 1968 was the mother of Guy Reeves who began teaching at PHS in 1968. This probably was the first mother-son combination among Pella teachers.

Probably the first mother-daughter combination in the Pella schools were Betty Van Roekel, third grade teacher at Webster and Lincoln, and her daughter, Joyce, junior high teacher from 1960 to 1963. Making it a family trio was Joyce's husband, Edgar, high school teacher and counselor.

Jean Wilkins, high school principal from 1952 to 1979, is

the nephew of Clarence Wilkins, high school principal from 1933 to 1937. His successor was Jane Gosselink who was followed by Jean Wilkins. This means that anyone wanting to name the high school principal between the years of 1933 and 1979 would be right with the comment: "It was either Gosselink or Wilkins." Jean's wife, Martha, was a junior high teacher for 19 years.

Jim Emmert began teaching art at PHS in August, 1979. Both of Jim's parents, Keith and Pat, have taught in Pella schools. This probably is the only father-mother-son teaching combination in the history of the Pella schools.

Some of Pella's Teachers



JOHN E. GROENDYKE
Science, 1930-1969



JAMES RUTHVEN
Industrial Arts, 1948-1976



LOIS SAYLER
Business, 1945-1966



DOTTIE VAN VARK
English & P.E.
(Still Teaching)



MARTHA WILKINS
English & Math, a total of
19 years ending in 1979



FRED WHALLEY
Band, 1945-1955



HELENE DOCKENDORFF
Kindergarten & Music
1948-1974



KEITH EMMERT
Math, 1949-(Still Teaching)

Clothing

Staying in Fashion

The Clothes They Wore

Based on interviews with several former students and teachers of the Pella schools, early history books, the file of Duchesses, the Pella Chronicle and information from Mina Baker, home economics professor at Central College. ELH

The first few years that schools were operating in Pella, the students and teachers looked different than people in other schools of that period; they were still wearing clothes from Holland. A traveler who passed through the area in the summer of 1847 and again on September 17 wrote, "The men in blanket coats and jeans were gone. And a broad-shouldered race in velvet jackets and wooden shoes were there..." with women in "outlandish caps and bonnets" and the children similarly dressed.¹

The clothing brought from Holland was worn to school at

first, but reminiscences, letters and pictures suggest that in a few years, both teachers and pupils had adopted American fashions.

Children in the country schools wore warm sturdy clothing. Usually the boys wore overalls, and the girls wore dresses which had been made at home. All wore long underwear during the winter months. Children in town schools dressed up a little more.

In the 1890's, little girls in school usually wore long black stockings, high-topped shoes, and dresses that reached well below the knees made of gingham or wool, depending upon the time of year. They usually wore their hair in braids or long curls hanging down their backs or tied into an arrangement at the nape of the neck. The boys in elementary grades, both in town and country schools, often wore knickers and knee socks.

¹Cyrenus Cole, "A Bit of Holland," A Souvenir History of Pella, 1847 to 1922, published by G.A. Stout.



THESE CURLS in the 1890's were the result of having the hair tightly braided while it was wet. Ribbons in the hair, the big sleeves and the epaulettes on the shoulders were typical of the period.

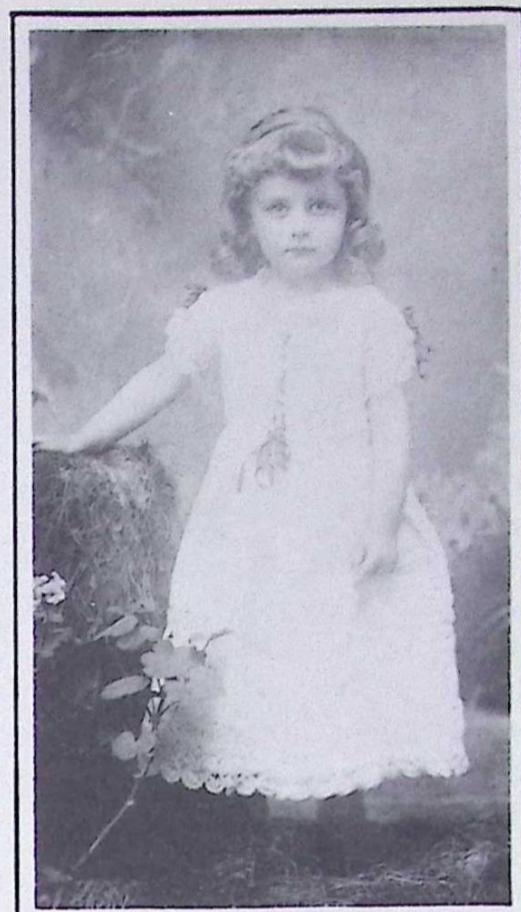
"Our clothes were mostly constructed by our mothers or seamstresses and followed the individual tastes or knowledge as to design," said James A. Ver Ploeg, who started to first grade in Park School in 1893, in a story published in **The Pella Chronicle** May 11, 1944. "In some cases, they must have been quite a Chinese puzzle to the teachers. Especially when nature demanded that we go to the wooden annex a few rods to the Southwest of the main building." He recalled that one of his male classmates wore dresses to school.

Recalling the years that she and her sisters were pupils in Pella schools in the 19th century, Miss Henrietta Ver Heul, a long-time teacher at Pella High School, said, "We were glad if

we each had three homemade calico dresses to wear to school. Calico was a nickel a yard, and my mother would buy yards and yards to make into dresses for us. She spent the evenings with a kerosene lamp nearby, sewing dresses and petticoats or knitting stockings, caps and scarves for all of us."

The lady teachers of the late nineteenth century wore floor-length dresses and high-topped shoes with pointed toes; the men teachers at the high school dressed in suits and shirts with stiff collars.

Jane Gosselink, who was a pupil in Black Oak Number Six rural school in the early 1900's, recalls that her mother hired a seamstress to go to their farm home a couple of times a year to sew for the family. She made



1888 was the date for this picture of a little Pella girl in her best outfit.



WHATEVER IS IN FASHION describes the clothing worn to high school classes in Pella since the first classes were held in 1876. In the late 1890's, this is what the students looked like. The boy, Herman Vander Linden, was in elementary school.

cotton dresses for the girls to wear in spring and fall and warm wool dresses for the cold months. Each girl had an assortment of aprons and pinafores to wear over her wool dress. The children wore long underwear, a memory which made Miss Gosselink comment in 1979, "How glad we were when it was spring!" The boys wore overalls or wool pants and warm shirts to school.

Scarves, caps, mittens and heavy coats were worn on top of all those clothes. At school, these wraps were kept in separate cloakrooms, one room for the boys and one for the girls. The teachers and high school girls usually wore tailored shirtwaist blouses and plain skirts, the length varying according to the current style from ankles to calf-length. The teachers usually had their hair

done in a pompadour. Some of them wore fashionable "hobble" skirts which were narrow at the bottom and forced the wearer to take small, hobbling steps.

"We almost always wore hats," said Nelle Vander Linden, who graduated from PHS in 1901. She recalled a time shortly after she finished high school when she refused to go with the family to spend the evening at a neighbor's home because her little brother had hidden her big hat under a bed.

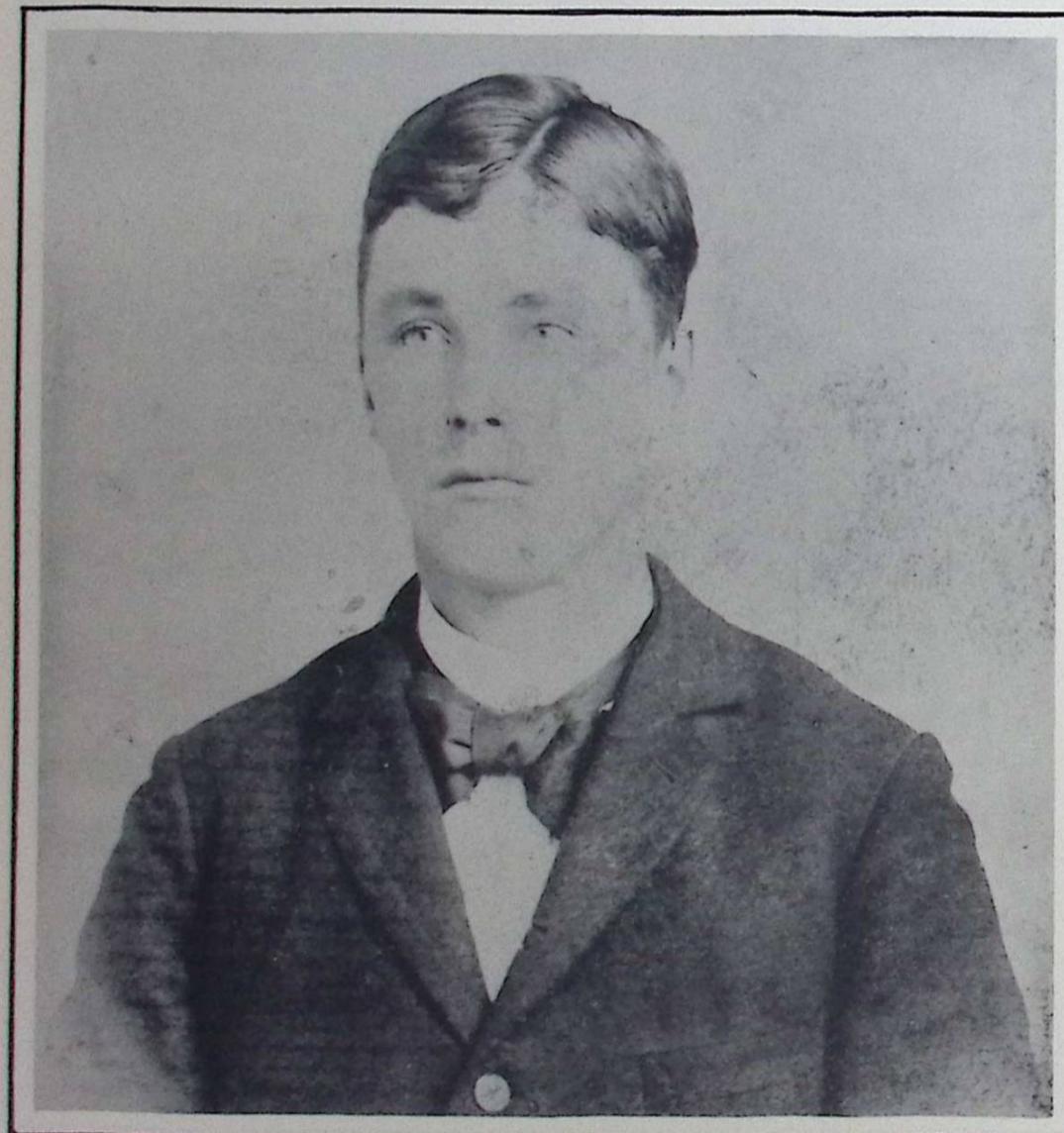
The increasing popularity of the motor car made many people add silk or linen "dust coats" to their wardrobes. A woman wore a chiffon veil wrapped around her head and hat to hold the hat on.

In October, 1909, the **Pella Chronicle** reported that the senior boys were wearing new

sweaters in the class colors, dark blue with a large white figure 10 on the front to indicate their graduation year.

Dena Ver Steeg, who attended the Pella elementary schools in the second decade of the twentieth century, recalls that she and her classmates were wearing about the same type of clothing as Miss Gosselink described for the previous decade. Miss Ver Steeg remembers the black wool leggings she wore to Lincoln School. "They were fleece-lined and buttoned down the side of each leg," she said. These were worn in addition to long underwear and long stockings, then removed when she took off her coat. Boys wore overalls or pants and dark print shirts which they called "waists." High school boys had wool pants and sweaters or jackets. "A couple of dudes wore white shirts with stiff collars," C.C. Buerkens recalled. Teachers of the period wore full gathered skirts, usually six inches off the floor, although each year the skirts were a little shorter.

By 1920, the "Flapper era" with its knee-length skirts had arrived. High school girls and teachers were wearing the chemise dress which had become popular during World War I. The silhouette was straight with the waistline of the dress below the natural waistline. Bright colors were more popular than in previous years, and fabrics were soft. Their underwear was a one-piece garment called a "teddy." High school girls usually wore hose to school, silk if they could afford it, otherwise cotton. Most of the girls had their hair short, or "bobbed," and many had one of the new permanent waves. Boys wore wool pants and pull-over sweaters; men teachers wore suits, white shirts and neckties. Miss Ver Steeg, who started teaching at Lincoln school in 1928, recalls that almost all of the women teach-



TEACHER in a typical outfit of the 1890's is Albert Crosby who taught in the Eureka Rural School.

ers wore colorful smocks over skirts or dresses.

Little girls of the 1920's also had their hair cut in a short bob with bangs. They wore cotton dresses a few inches above their knees and never went outside in the wintertime without hats on their heads and long scarves wound around their faces. The legs were covered with long underwear and cotton lisle stockings, sometimes black, but more usually tan or white. The dresses usually were homemade and often had "bloomers" to match.

In the 1920's, most of the seniors bought a Class Sweater. The seniors voted on the style and color they wanted, and most of them, both boys and girls, ordered one, bearing a letter "P" and the number of their graduation year. This custom died during the depression years of the 1930's.

"We didn't know about slacks," said Lenora Gaass Hettinga, who started to first grade at Webster in 1919. Over her long stockings, she wore leggings which she took off when she removed her coat, scarf, hat and mittens. The girls wore simple dresses to school, and the boys usually wore corduroy pants and shirts; a few wore jeans or overalls.

When Mrs. Hettinga started to high school in 1927, a few of the girls had long hair in braids, but most of them had Dutch bobs, cut to the bottom of their ears with bangs. The girls wore print dresses that had to be ironed. Some of them were bought at Nettie Black's dress shop (Mode Huis), and some were homemade. Most of the girls wore silk hose to school, usually mended and darned.

When Charles Lindberg made his triumphant flight across the Atlantic Ocean in 1927, leather aviator's helmets became popular — a practical fashion for an Iowa winter worn by boys from kinder-



SUNDAY OUTFITS were worn by the students at Eureka School in the 1890's on the day the photographer was at the school.



SEAMSTRESSES trained at Pella Sewing School stitched much of the clothing worn by both girls and boys when this picture was taken of fourth graders at the New Lincoln School in 1905.



HOLDING A SLATE THAT SAYS "PLAIN VIEW" and wearing the typical school clothes of 1917, the children of the school east of Pella on the New Sharon road lined up with their teacher, Elizabeth Ver Heul, who later taught at Lincoln School in Pella.



TYPICAL SCHOOL CLOTHES of 1912 were worn by the pupils of Centennial School as they posed for their annual school picture beside their building. Also typical of the period is the range in age — first through eighth grades.

garten through high school for about ten years.

In the 1930's, little girls were wearing cotton or wool dresses of bright colors or white blouses under warm jumpers with skirts above the knees. A few mothers insisted on long underwear, and all of them put long stockings on the little girls. Long corduroy pants and sweaters were the style for little boys. In the rural schools, many of the boys wore overalls, and occasionally on really cold, winter days, girls would wear wool slacks. Shorts and slacks for girls in town were taboo unless they were worn as part of the wraps and taken off with the coat.

High school boys wore dress pants and shirts with pull-over or cardigan sweaters. The men teachers wore dark-colored suits. High school girls and women teachers wore skirts a few inches below the knee. Pleated skirts, gored or flaring skirts, short flared sleeves, and tailored suits were popular. Almost every year there was a color which designers announced was the one everybody should wear — teal blue, chartreuse, fuschia, or dusty rose, for example.

In the 1940's, nylon stockings became available and were worn by teachers and high school girls with dresses just below the knee until 1948, when "the new look" with full skirts, calf-length, became fashionable. Men teachers wore suits and shirts and ties in class. High school boys never wore jeans to school — always slacks, sweaters or jackets and ties.

Elementary school children looked much as they did in the 1930's except that long underwear was disappearing.

In the 1950's many girls were still wearing homemade dresses to school, but "ready-made" dresses were common. Boys wore wool pants and plaid shirts. In the country schools,



HAIRSTYLES in the second decade of this century called for long heavy braids in unusual arrangements, as shown in this portrait of Frances Vander Linden.



HOMEMADE COATS and caps from the department store were worn by little boys in the 1920's.

the boys usually wore jeans. Women and girls wore dresses with full skirts which got a little shorter each year. Ballet slippers, pointed-toe shoes with high heels, suede shoes called "booties," wide leather belts, over-the-shoulder handbags, and bobby sox were popular at various times.

In the 1950's girls of all ages were wearing can-can petticoats, which presented problems. There wasn't enough room in the closets and dresser drawers for all of the stiff petticoats a girl wanted to wear. The wide skirts complicated getting around in the small rooms at the high school; when the girls tried to line up for glee club, they found it hard to stand as close together as the director wanted.

Being allowed to wear make-up meant "grown-up", so girls



SCHOOL BOYS DRESSED FOR A SIGHT-SEEING TRIP with Marinus Vander Linden (kneeling on the right) about 1920.

were anxious to get their first lipstick. Bright red was popular at high school; some junior high girls wore pale pink lipstick. Heavy pancake makeup was worn by many girls and each year, eye makeup became heavier, more colorful and more popular.

Boys' hairstyles ran the gamut from the crew cut and the butch haircut that boys started wearing during World War II to the Elvis Presley "ducktail." High school boys wore slacks and sweaters; the girls usually wore skirts and sweaters or blouses.

During the 1960's, skirts continued getting shorter, and hair continued getting longer. Synthetic fabrics replaced cotton and wool in many garments, but cashmere sweaters were popular. Although stretch pants for girls and women were fashionable, no one wore them to school except on PE days in the elementary schools.

In the 1960's boys often wore turtle-necked sweaters and a metal medallion on a chain around the neck. One year, almost every boy had a Nehru jacket patterned after the style worn by Nehru, the ruler of India. Many men teachers wore sports jackets and slacks instead of suits.

This was the time when a nation-wide trend toward less formal dress by young people led to the adoption of dress codes by many schools, including Pella. In the elementary schools, girls could wear slacks only on PE days. In the junior and senior high schools, students could wear shorts only one day a year, the day to be chosen by the Student Council. They invariably chose Tulip Time; since they had morning classes on Thursday and afternoon classes on Friday, this was interpreted as one school day, so shorts could be worn on two days.



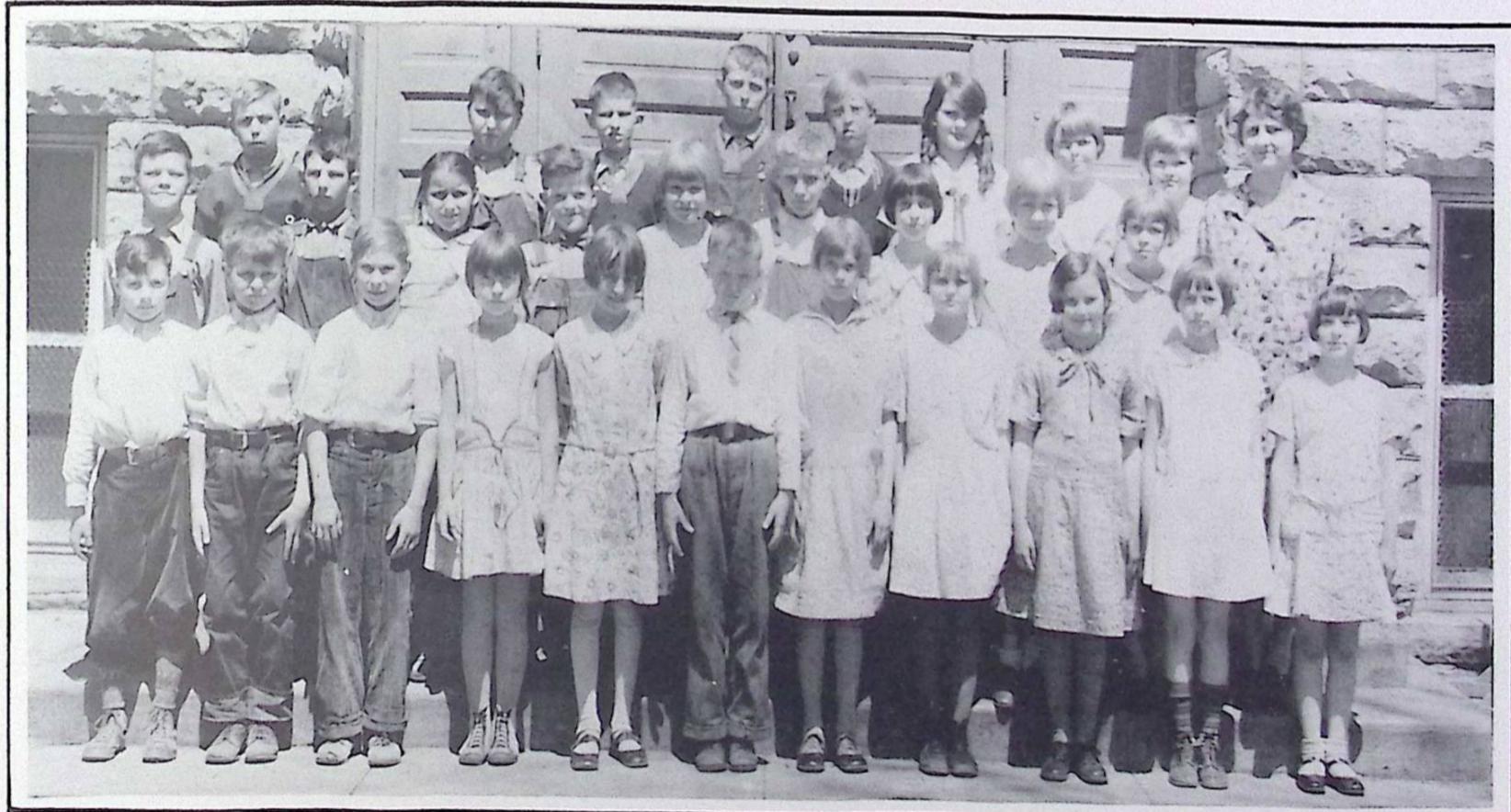
A HIGH SCHOOL GIRL of the 1920's on a picnic.

In 1972 and 1973, when Americans were concerned about prisoners of war still in Vietnam, many students in the middle school and the high school wore silver POW bracelets, each bearing the name of an American prisoner of war and the date when he had been taken prisoner.

In the 1970's the dress code disappeared, and students wore a wide variety of clothing showing their moods and tastes. On hot days, both boys and girls wore shorts to school. Girls and women teachers wore pant suits, dresses or skirts and blouses. Skirt lengths varied during the 1960's and 1970's; mini-skirts that barely covered the panties, granny skirts that almost touched the floor, maxi-skirts just above the ankles and skirts just above the knees. Men and boys got in on the fashion of changing lengths with cuffs on pants sometimes a little above the shoetops and sometimes almost dragging the floor. Jeans, with various kinds of tops, were almost a uniform for both boys



CHILDREN of the second decade of the 20th century.



IN 1930, LINCOLN fifth grade boys wore corduroy pants or overalls to school; the girls wore cotton dresses, usually made at home. This class was taught by Dena Ver Steeg.



THE ANNUAL FOOTBALL PICNIC for team members and their dates was held by the Des Moines River in 1930. Most of the girls went to the department store, located on the corner where Ideal Pharmacy is now, to buy overalls to wear for the occasion.

and girls. Suits worn by men teachers and sometimes by high school boys were more colorful than in previous decades. Sports jackets with slacks continued to be popular. Women teachers usually wore slacks or pant suits.

Letter sweaters for athletes disappeared and were replaced by green and white letter jackets, worn by both boys and

girls. In the 1970's, athletic teams began dressing up on their game days. This evolved into a custom of everyone on the team buying the same color and style of clothing to be worn on game days.

In 1980 jeans are still a popular school outfit, but dressier clothes frequently appear in the classrooms. This trend is seen from kindergarten

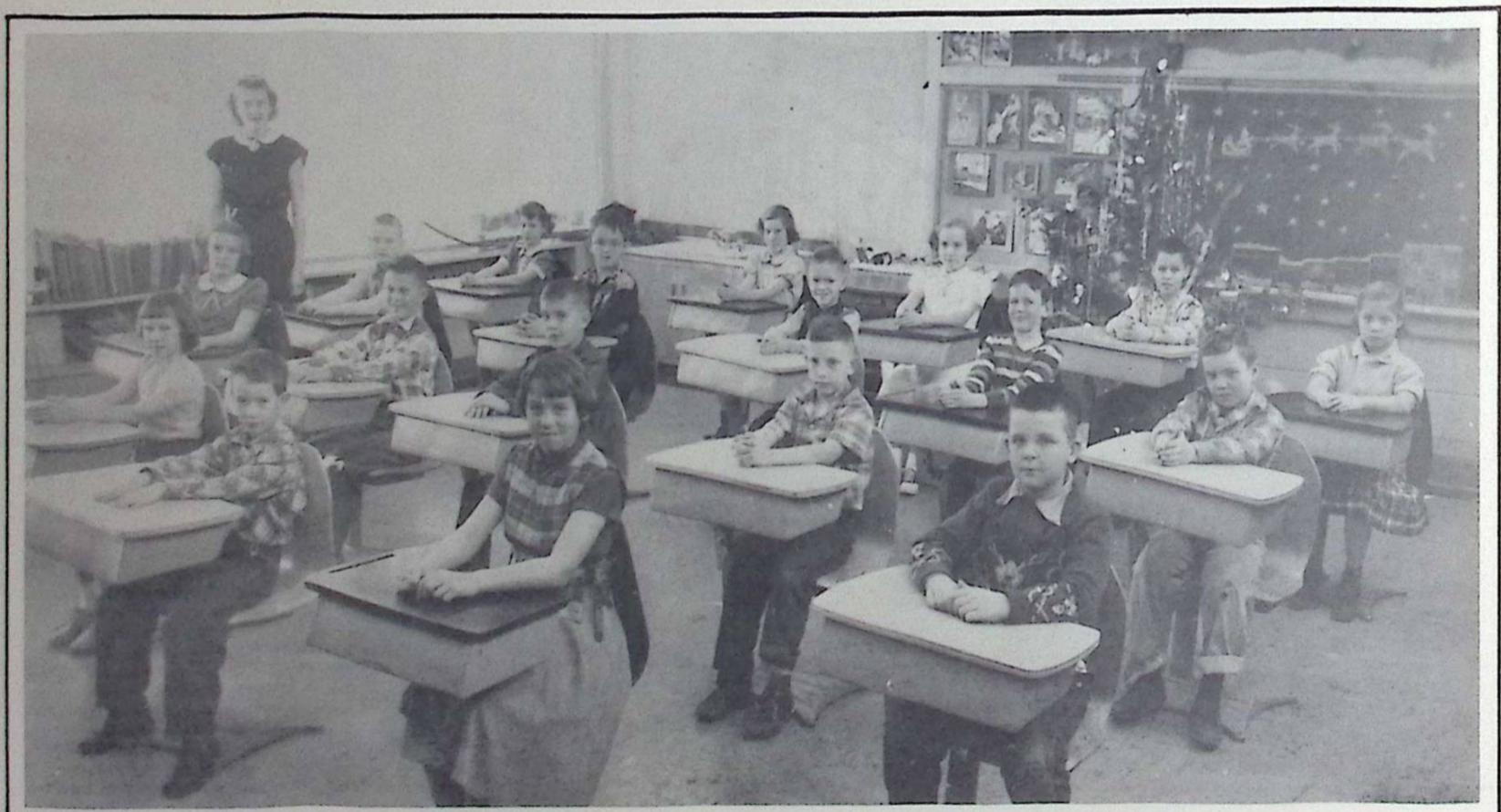
through high school for both boys and girls.

The clothing worn in the school rooms of Pella has varied during the one and a third centuries of the town's history, but a stranger passing through Pella in 1980, unlike the traveler in 1847, would see no difference between the students in Pella and those in classrooms in other parts of the nation.

Fashion Note

Popular items are overskirts, basques, chemisettes, canton crepes, leg-of-mutton sleeves, small satin buttons, waistcoats simulated on dresses. All fashionable costumes are made of two or more kinds of stuff... The newest thing in stockings is to match the costumes... Pin-head checks are seen in the prints and percales of the season.

— Pella Weekly Blad
April 16, 1878



PLAID SHIRTS for boys were in fashion for these fourth graders at Webster in 1953. The teacher was Jen Andeweg.



NOSTALGIA FOR THE 1950's showed up at the 1979 Carnaby Club performance when girls wore some of their mothers' old high school clothes.

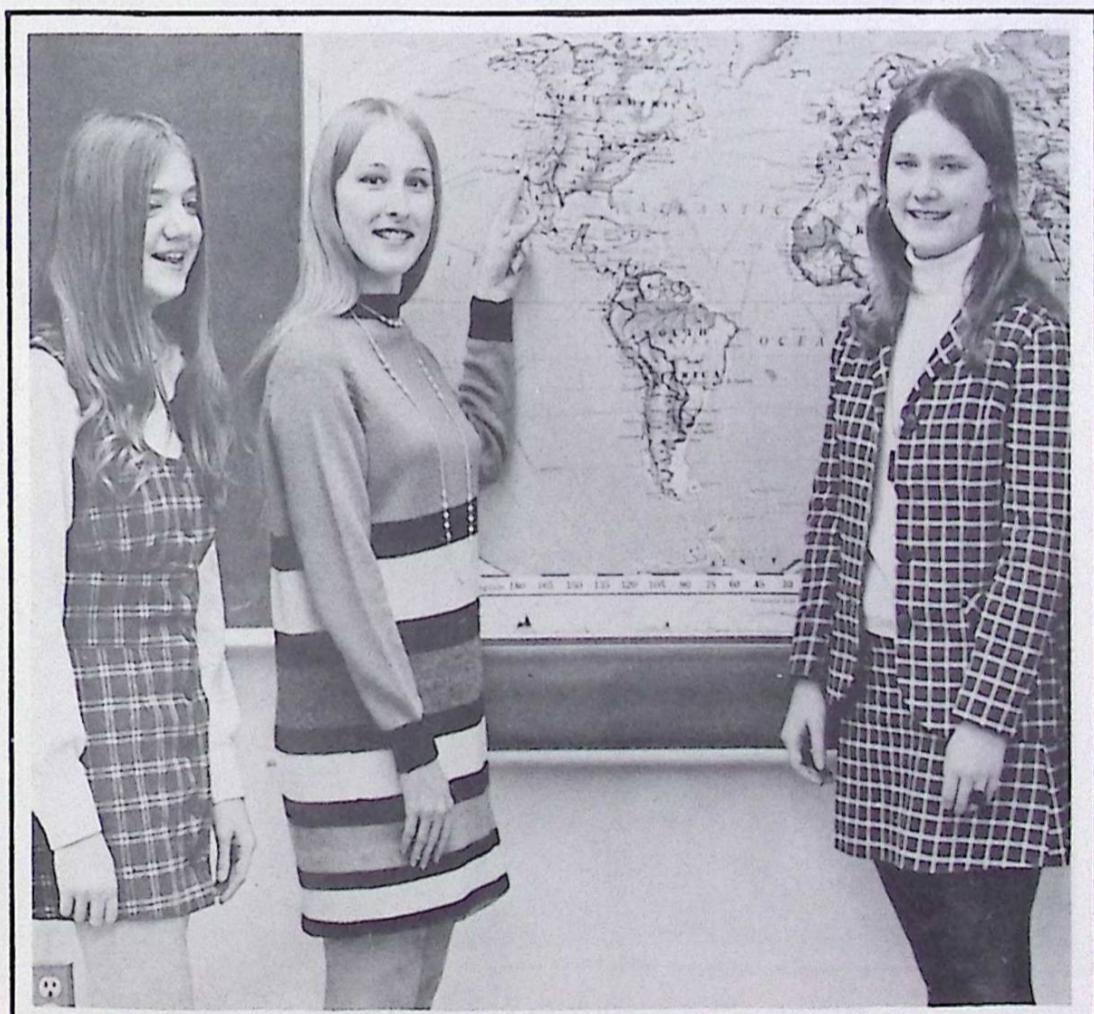
Dress Policy

In the fall of 1964 the school board established a policy about students' dress and appearance and published this bulletin for students, parents and teachers:

STUDENT APPEARANCE

Students, in order to command respect, must first of all present a neat and attractive appearance to the people they meet. Each student in order to accomplish this must do one or more of the following:

1. Boys - have your hair cut in a conventional manner and keep it well groomed.
2. Girls - have your hair attractively groomed.
3. Boys and girls - keep your entire body clean.



SKIRTS WERE SHORT AND HAIR WAS LONG in the late 1960's and early 1970's.

4. Boys and girls - wear clothes that are clean and well cared for.

5. Boys and girls - in the wearing of your clothes, each person is to dress neatly and in a conventional manner. Shirt tails and blouses designed to be tucked in should be, and trousers designed for the wearing of belts should have a belt. Sloppy dress leads to carelessness and lack of self-respect.

All of us strive for the attention and respect of our fellow man, and each student should be interested in promoting his

own respect and not merely attracting attention through unorthodox grooming and dress. Thus the school board is passing this resolution:

Each student is to dress in a neat manner and keep himself well groomed at all times in the hope that a wholesome respect for individuals, for the student body, and the school will result.

The policies previously approved by the Board and still in effect are as follows:

1. Jeans or slacks may be worn to school by girls during the cold weather. These may be

worn under skirts or dresses, and when inside the building the jeans or slacks must be removed. These may be removed or put on in the Girls' Locker Room.

2. The Board has no objection to setting aside one day a year as Bermuda shorts day. This applies to the Junior and Senior High Schools but is optional in each case with the Principal in charge. Shorts are not to be worn for Summer School classes at the high school.



"NO SLACKS FOR GIRLS" was the rule for many years, but these 1979 Middle School students getting ready to have their picture taken show that the custom has changed.

Life at School

The Curriculum

Introduction

The common factor in the curriculum of the Pella schools from 1847 to 1980 was the desire of parents, school board and teachers to teach the children the things that would help prepare them for life as citizens of the United States. Subjects, methods, textbooks and equipment used to attain this goal have varied in the one and a third centuries since schools started in Pella. This section gives a few samples of what students have studied in Pella schools.

This story is an excerpt taken from Pella Blade, December 25, 1877:

History in Our Community Schools

Our attention has been called to a History of the United States for the use of the schools by Prof. J. C. Ridpath, which is not

only the best we have ever seen, but embraces features of rare value never before incorporated into any history. It is written in a style of great elegance, but simply and easy of comprehension; systematically arranged in a connected narrative; elegantly and intelligently illustrated with chronological charts progressive maps, typographical diagrams, portraits and cuts; fresh, philosophical and readable.

It is as much unlike an ordinary school history as the beautiful periods of Irving are unlike the turgid nonsense of Tupper; and it adroitly weaves the inspiring story of the country into the web and woof of its material facts as to impress the lessons of history upon the mind with indelible force. It is fact dressed in elegant periods, noble diction, impressive characterizations, and illuminated by appropriate incidents and beautiful pictures. The publishers (Jones Brothers and Company, Cincinnati, Ohio) have made the most elegant and attractive

school-book now before the public.

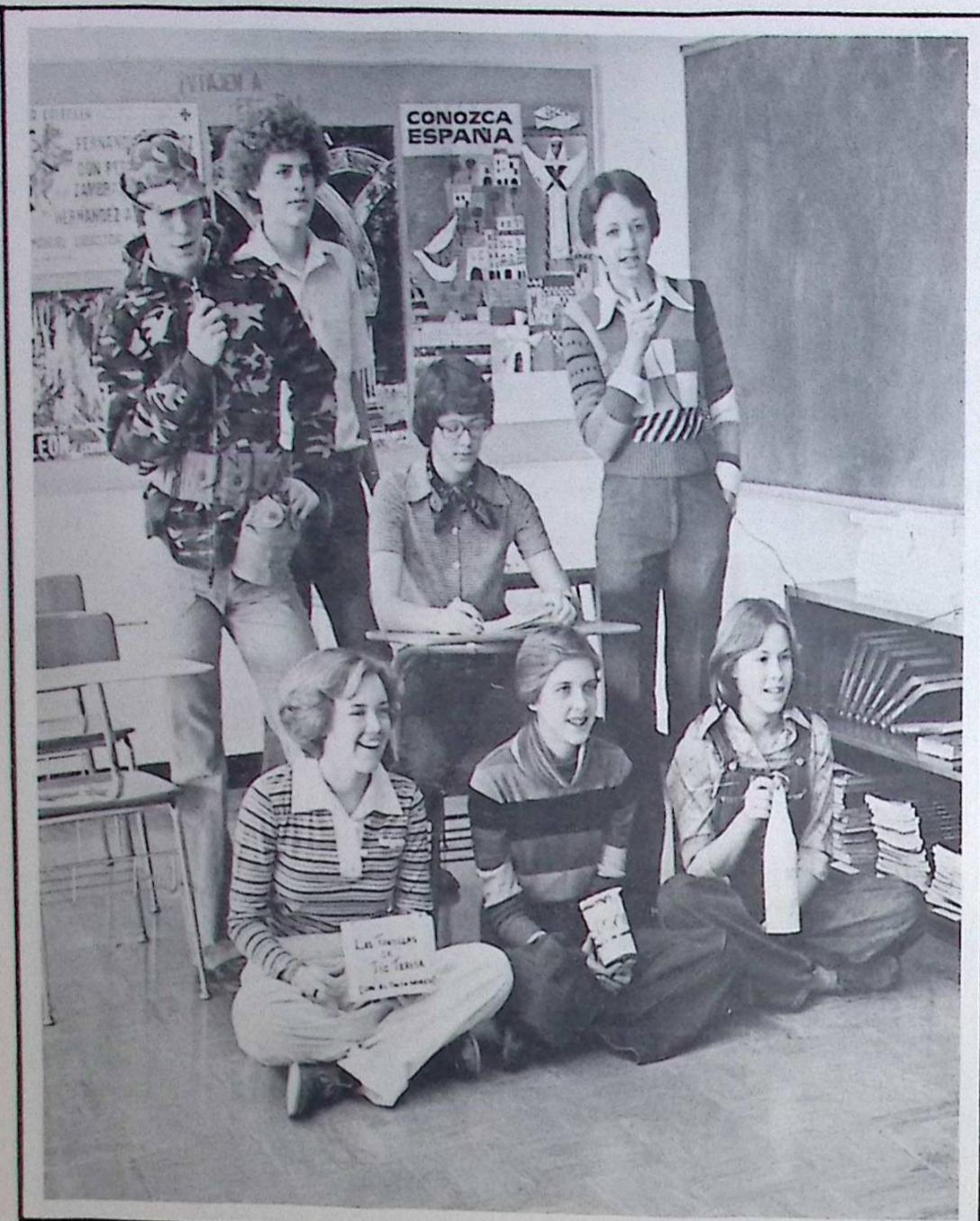
Branches Taught in 1873

Source: Report from school board secretary to the county superintendent of schools in 1873.

Orthography
Reading
Writing
Arithmetic
Geography
English Grammar
Physiology
History, U.S.
Algebra
Physical Geography
Vocal Music

Course of Study 1892

Based on information in a booklet, Rules and Regulations and Course of Study of the Pella Schools, published in 1892



"SPEAK ENGLISH" was the advice to the children from Holland in Pella's first schools. In 1977 this picture was taken of students in Spanish class, holding the mikes and stage properties they used when they wrote and delivered television commercials in Spanish to increase their ability to use a foreign language.

by the authority of the School Board of Pella. The copy of this manual which was given to C. C. Buerkens when he became superintendent of schools in 1937 is in the archives at Central College. ELH

First Primary Department

Using charts, blackboard and the children's slates, teachers taught the children the sound of words, then their form, beginning with the words cat, rat and mat. Webster's diacritical marks were used and phonics were emphasized in teaching reading.

Children learned to spell by

copying spelling words on their slates, then writing them when the teacher pronounced them.

In teaching children to write, teachers used only script. Children in primary were taught to write their name, address and days of the week with emphasis on correct position at the desk and holding the pencil properly. They used only small letters but were expected to recognize the capitals.

In arithmetic class, the children learned to count and write to 10, and did simple addition and subtraction. The teacher is directed to use no number bigger than 10 as the dividend in division problems and no number bigger than 10

as the product in a multiplication problem. She was to take the children through page 59 in **Harper's First Book in Arithmetic**.

Hygiene classes included a study of neatness, cleanliness, care of the eyes and teeth, correct positions, the need for exercise and the effects of stimulants and narcotics on the body. The handbook advises the teachers that morals and manners are taught to children by training in truthfulness, purity, gentleness, and kindness toward playmates using "verses and maxims that will mould the character, direct the actions and cultivate reverence for God, love of country, respect for parents and teachers."

The children in first primary also studied geography and language.

Second Primary Department

In reading class, the children completed the first 42 lessons of **Harper's Second Reader**. They studied phonics and were encouraged to read magazines and newspapers.

In spelling class, the children spelled both orally and in writing. In writing class, they began to use capitol letters and studied punctuation.

Instructions for the teachers for Numbers Class include:

Study numbers from 1 to 20 inclusive ... Follow carefully the plan of **Harper's First Book in Arithmetic**, from page 59 to 79 ... easy problems in mental arithmetic exercises in addition, subtraction and multiplication and division, no product nor amount to exceed twenty ... Roman notation in connection with reading lessons ... Drill on multiplication table to 5 times 10.

The children in the second primary department also stu-

died geography, language and hygiene.

The conclusion of this section of the handbook advises the teacher:

Morals and Manners —
Occasional talks about the behavior of children at home, at school, at church and in the presence of company will exert a wholesome influence. Reverence, obedience to authority, kindness to animals, politeness, etc.

Third Primary Department

In reading class, the children finished **Harper's Second Reader** and read **Swinton's Advanced Second**. The handbook tells teachers, "Other suitable reading matter may be introduced or the supplementary work changed with the advice and consent of the Superintendent."

The manual tells the teacher to emphasize these aspects of

penmanship in teaching writing: slant, angle, loop, shade, height, width, space lines and margins.

Numbers Class became Arithmetic in this department, with children working with numbers from 30 to 100 and learning to "carry" and "borrow" near the end of the school year.

In geography class, the children learned to make maps of the school room, the school yard and city of Pella, "locating principal streets, square, post-office, power-house, leading hotels, churches, schools, etc."

They studied spelling, language, hygiene and morals and manners. The teacher used "memory gems and maxims" to teach morals and manners.

Fourth Primary Department

In reading class, the children used **Harper's Third Reader** plus geographical and historical readings for supplementary work. The teacher is instructed that "particular attention shall

be given to articulation, emphasis and inflection."

The manual's advice for the teacher for writing class is:

The philosophy of penmanship depends upon this elementary principle: to have a clear conception of the form of the letter in the mind and to execute this conception on paper.

Maps of Lake Prairie Township, Marion County and Iowa were the main subjects for geography class.

The manual reminds the teachers:

Mathematics is the great developer of reason and arithmetic should be so taught that the end reached is the development of consecutive thought as well as the art of rapid computation; to this end give plenty of outside problems that will require the pupils to think.



"FORGET YOU'RE DUTCH," teachers told the children in the first part of this century when many children in the Pella schools were having a hard time with the English language because Dutch was the only language spoken in their homes. But that idea has changed. Since the 1940's, children have been learning Dutch songs, games and dances in their school classes.

The children studied spelling and hygiene, which continued to emphasize effects of stimulants and narcotics. Instructions for teaching morals and manners are:

Instruct in reverence for God, love of country, honor, a good name, self-control, confession of wrong, forgiveness, evil speaking, profanity, etc. by means of stories, the reading lessons, memory gems and maxims of the wise.

First Intermediate Department

The course of study for the beginners in the intermediate department includes these instructions for the teachers:

Reading — Each pupil must give the substance of each lesson in his own language.

Spelling — Teach use of accent mark; in oral spelling indicate the close of each syllable by a brief pause, in written spelling require pupils to use accent mark and to divide words into syllables.

Writing — Do not relax one moment in regard to position, legibility, holding pen, etc.

Arithmetic — Draw the minds of the pupils out from among the pages of the textbook.

Geography — Teach definitions (for example, peninsula, plateau, continent) and when well understood, commit to memory.

Hygiene — Give oral lessons on ventilation and respiration.

Language — Complete the book.

Morals and Manners — By means of memory gems, maxims, etc., instruct on good habits, industry, obedience to law, fidelity to official trust and other duties involved in good citizenship.

Second Intermediate Department (Sixth grade)

The handbook's instructions for teachers of this department lists textbooks and pages to be covered and recommends following the outlines of the Superintendent. The children began the study of fractions.

Grammar Department (Seventh grade)

Instructions in the 1892 handbook for the teacher of the grammar department, located on the second floor of the Webster building at the corner of Peace and Broadway, listed books to be used and pages to be covered plus these bits of advice:

Form habit of consulting the dictionary.

Correct pronunciations.

Accept no careless work.

Review common and decimal fractions.

Study effects of stimulants and narcotics.

The study of U.S. History took the students from the beginnings of civilization to Washington's administration. To learn morals and manners the children studied "correct ideas in regard to honor, reputation, self-denial, slander, good habits, temperance, etc."

Advanced Grammar Department

The 1892 handbook lists textbooks and pages and urges the teacher to look back over the suggestions given to teachers of children at lower grade levels. The teacher is told, "At the close of this year, pupils ought to be able to read any ordinary selection from a book or paper at sight, fluently and understandingly."

In spelling, "encourage free use of dictionary, homonyms, synonyms, antonyms."

About arithmetic, the teacher is advised to cover percentage "most thoroughly. The poorest teaching in arithmetic is usually done in percentage, and yet it is the most important division of the whole science."

The U.S. History course went from Washington's administration to 1892. In hygiene class, the pupils studied the nervous system and the effects of stimulants and narcotics.

High School Department

First year students (ninth graders) studied arithmetic, grammar, physiology, botany, word analysis and business forms.

Second year students studied algebra, rhetoric, bookkeeping, civil government of Iowa and reviews.

Third Year course included general history, physical geography, federal government, natural philosophy and reviews.

Fourth year students (seniors) studied geometry, English and American literature, astronomy and reviews.

Course of Reading

Students in the Pella schools in 1892-1893 were required to read three books during the school year. This is the list approved by the school board:

THIRD GRADE

Fairy Tales, Anderson

Queer Little People, Stowe

Stories of Heroic Deeds, Johnon-not

FOURTH GRADE

Grandfather's Chair, Hawthorne

Water Babies, Kingsley

Robinson Crusoe, Daniel Defoe

FIFTH GRADE

Tanglewood Tales, Hawthorne

Little Men, Alcott

Little Women, Alcott

SIXTH GRADE

Franklin, His Life by Himself,
Gwin and Co.
King of the Golden River, Ruskin
Guy Mannering, Scott

SEVENTH GRADE

We Girls, Whitney
Boys of '76, Coffin
Irving's Life of Washington,
Fish

EIGHTH GRADE

Home Life of Great Authors,
Griswold
Greek Heroes, Kingsley
Fairy Land of Science, Buckley

HIGH SCHOOL—First Year
Tales from Shakespeare, Lamb
Sketch Book, Irving
Old Curiosity Shop, Dickens

SECOND YEAR

Ivanhoe, Scott
Ethics of the Dust, Ruskin
Getting Along in the World,
Matthews

THIRD YEAR

Snow Bound, Whittier
Vicar of Wakefield, Goldsmith
Fifteen Decisive Battles, Creasy

FOURTH YEAR

Autocrat of the Breakfast Table, Holmes
Hero Worship, Carlyle
Sesame and Lilies, Ruskin

Course of Study, 1904 The Grade School

The course of study from kindergarten through high school was published in 1904 in a 49-page handbook approved by the school board and probably written by W.C. Farmer, the superintendent. For each grade, the handbook lists subjects to be taught, titles of textbooks, pages to be covered, suggestions for supplementary work, hints to the teachers and goals. Two copies of the handbooks, including underlining

and marginal notations made by the teachers who used them, are in the archives of Learning Resources Center on the Central College campus. Here are the subjects taught in each grade and some excerpts from the book. ELH

Last paragraph of the introduction:

It is hoped that this course of study will unify the grade work to the end that much better results may be attained than here-to-fore. After all, the good that comes from our schools depends largely upon the individual efforts put forth by the children under our charge. It is our aim to lay before them the best we have, not only of Education, but of **Moral Influences** as well. A manly man and a womanly woman are the best products of our public schools today.

The Kindergarten

(*The first year that Pella Public Schools had kindergarten, the following material was included in the handbook. ELH*)

The object of the Kindergarten is to form an easy connection between the home life of the child and his regular school work. Here he learns of his relation to man, to nature, and to God. Here he is led to see the value of loving service, the true object of life.

First Grade

Subjects. Reading, writing, geography, numbers, language, hygiene, music, morals and manners.

Writing — Words of the reading lesson on slate and blackboard. Use script only. Slates must always be properly ruled and pencils long enough to write with ease.

Music — Scale of C. Daily drill to procure pure tone. Drill

on syllables do, ri, me, fa, sol, la, ti, do. Value of whole, half, quarter and eighth notes. Songs learned by imitation.

Morals and Manners — Instruction and training in truthfulness, honesty, purity, gentleness, kindness toward playmates, such verses and maxims may be taught as will mould the character, direct the actions and cultivate reverence for God, love of country respect for parents and teachers, short talks at the right times, as occasion demands.

Second Grade

Subjects. Reading, spelling, writing, geography, numbers, language, hygiene, music, manners and morals.

Lesson Thoughts — Relationship to bird life, animal life and plant life, love and helpfulness and doing good for others. The Christ child.

Relationship to neighbors, to trade and to commerce. The interdependence of mankind.

Relationship to our country, to the lives of heroes and heroines. Nobility of character and patriotism.

Relationship to God, the loving Father, symbolized by the elements of earth, air, water, light, etc.

Colors — The six rainbow colors, sub-classes, etc. Tints and shades, complementary colors and artistic combinations.

Form — Solids, fundamentals, spheres, cubes, cylinders, planes, circles, squares and triangles.

Lines — Curves, vertical and horizontal lines and their combinations.

Numbers — The idea of numbers to be developed from objects. Combining and separating objects without counting.

Nature Study — Familiarity and sympathy with nature through walks, talks and representative play.

Literature — Emphasize memorizing selections.

Morals and Manners — Neatness, cleanliness, habits of order, obedience, promptness, truthfulness and respect.

Spelling — Use slate and blackboard in written work.

Hygiene — Teach cleanliness and effects of stimulants and narcotics.

Manners and Morals — Occasional talks about the behavior of children at home, at school, at church, and in presence of company will exert a wholesome influence. Reverence, obedience to authority, kindness to animals, politeness.

Third Grade

Subjects. Reading, spelling, writing, arithmetic, language, music, hygiene, morals and manners.

Writing — Criticize slant, angle or loop, shade, height, width, space lines, margins.

Arithmetic — Multiplication table to 10 times 10; "carrying" and "borrowing" near close of year.

Music — Two-part singing introduced with canon and round.

Morals and Manners — Love for others, respect, gratitude, thankfulness, truthfulness, honesty, courage by means of example, memory gems and maxims.

Fourth Grade

Subjects. Reading, spelling, writing, geography, arithmetic, language, hygiene, music, morals and manners.

Geography — Study maps of Lake Prairie Township, Marion County and Iowa.

Morals and Manners — Instruct in reverence for God, love of country, honor, a good name, self-control, confession of wrong, forgiveness, evil speaking, profanity.

Fifth Grade

Arithmetic — Insist on neatness and artistic arrangement of work on board or paper.

Spelling — In oral spelling, indicate end of each syllable by brief pause. In written spelling require pupils to use the accent mark and to divide words into syllables.

Sixth Grade

Subjects. Reading, writing, grammar, spelling, arithmetic, geography, history, hygiene, music, morals and manners.

Arithmetic — Some good things are found in old books, but progressive teachers must have access to the newest and best things in the educational field.

Seventh Grade

Reading — aim to conduct the work so as to cultivate the habit of reading and a love for good books.

Writing — Accept no careless work.

Music — Introduce bass clef if there are sufficient changed voices to warrant it.

Eighth Grade

Spelling — Insist that every word in the pupil's written work be spelled correctly.

History — First half year to Civil War; second half year from Beginning of Civil War to date (1904).

Arithmetic — Emphasize ratio, proportion, mensuration (the branch of mathematics dealing with length, area and volume), square and cube foot.

Note at end of this section concludes:

The teacher's personal influence should be very suggestive. The example of a life above reproach is the great-

est lesson that can be taught, and the greatest influence that can be exerted. We may observe this in the life of Him who was, and is, the greatest of teachers.

The High School 1904

The handbook for Pella schools authorized by the school board in 1904 contains general rules for high school students and courses offered with an outline of their content, textbooks to be used and lists of supplementary books. Here are excerpts from the book, two copies of which are in the archives of the Learning Resources Center at Central College. ELH

General Regulations

Any pupil presenting a certificate of graduation from the grades or a county diploma from the rural schools will be admitted without examination to the high school. Other applicants will be required to pass such examinations as the superintendent or principal may direct.

The teachers will give monthly tests of such a nature as they think best. These tests will be the basis of credit and classification.

Grading will be on a basis of 100. Any pupil falling below 75 in a half year's average of tests for any study shall not receive credit for work in that branch, unless his general average for that half year shall be 85; in which case credit shall be given, if the pupil's application and deportment warrant such action.

Those who complete the entire course of study in a satisfactory manner will be given a diploma of graduation properly signed.

Course of Study Outlines

ENGLISH. The purpose of the three years English is to give the pupils a practical knowledge of the principles of grammar, composition and rhetoric, to give them ability to speak the language fluently, to read it readily and understandingly, to write it easily and correctly, and to form a taste for good literature and the habit of reading it.

Courses: Composition and Rhetoric, English Language Classics, History of English Literature plus general reading, rhetoricals and active membership in a Literary Society.

LATIN. It is a language that cannot be learned without constant and close attention, and conscious effort on the part of the mind. It is therefore an ideal study to discipline the mind and call into action the reasoning faculties. It trains one to think quickly, accurately and positively, while at the same time it leads to a clearer better and broader understanding of the structure of our mother tongue.

MATHEMATICS. Sufficient time is spent on analysis to lead

the mind into clear and logical solutions.

Courses: Algebra for two years, Plane and Solid Geometry in the junior year, Plane and Solid Geometry and review in senior year.

HISTORY. Teachers must not forget to recognize the ethical value of the study of History. Recognize the moral forces that lay behind the great epochs. Consider the results of turning points in history with care.

Courses: U.S. History Advanced, General History.

OTHER SUBJECTS: Bookkeeping, botany, physiology, physical geography, physics (emphasis on light and electricity), civics, political economy.

Courses of Study 1912 - High School

FRESHMEN: English, Algebra, Physical Geography, Latin, Commercial Arithmetic, Bookkeeping.

SOPHOMORES: English, Algebra, American History, Modern History, Botany, German.

JUNIORS: English, Plane

Geometry, U.S. History, Civics, Latin, Domestic Science (at Central College), Agriculture, Gramar and Reading for students in Normal Training Course.

SENIORS: English, Solid Geometry, Economics, Latin, Arithmetic, Physics, Chemistry and Pedagogy, Geography and Arithmetic for students in Normal Training Course.

Curriculum

1979-80

Elementary School

Grades 1 - 5

Reading, penmanship, arithmetic, science, social studies, spelling, art, music and physical education. Bible is optional with approximately 95 percent of the children enrolled in the weekly classes.

Middle School

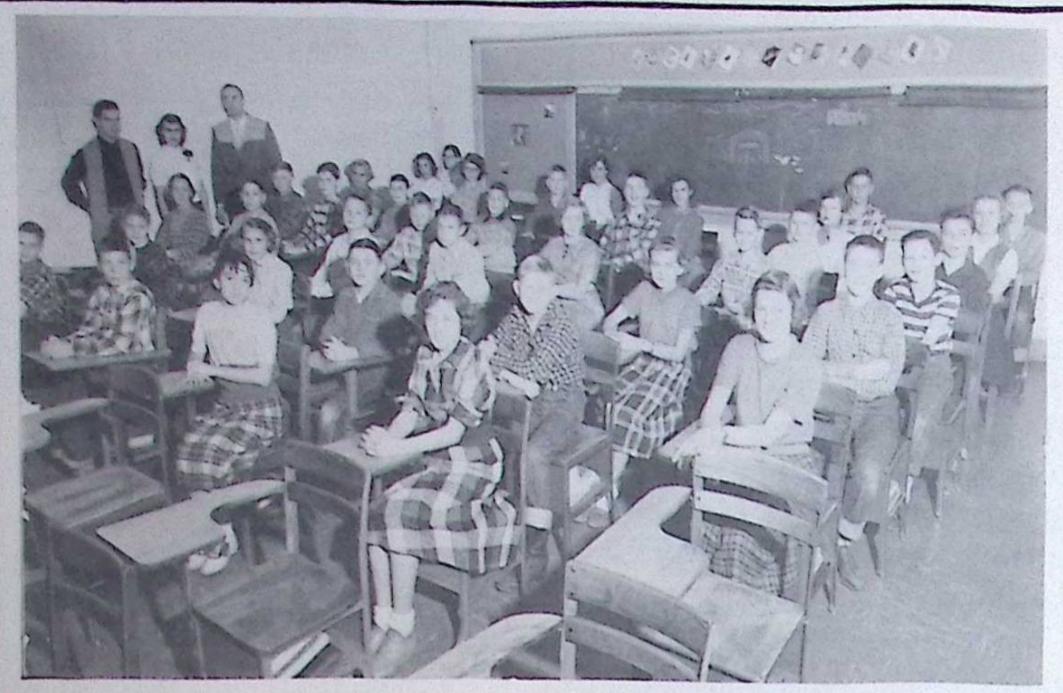
6th Grade Schedule

8:25-8:35, Home Room

8:39-9:24, Exploration. (All 6th grade students will take seven



BLACK BLOOMERS and white middy blouses were the prescribed uniforms for girls' physical education classes before World War I.



SEVENTH GRADERS in 1953 did their studying in the big high-ceilinged rooms at the old Webster School.

weeks of the following: General Music, Art, Spanish, Home Economics and Industrial Arts.) 9:28-10:12, Academic Subjects: Science, Math, Reading, Social Studies and English.

Milk Break

10:16-11:00, Academic Subjects

11:04-11:47, Academic Subjects

11:51-12:34, Academic Subjects

Lunch

1:08-1:51, Academic Subjects

1:55-2:38, Supervised Study, Physical Education, Band and Chorus

2:42-3:25, Supervised Study and Physical Education

7th Grade Curriculum

REQUIRED: Reading, English, Math, Science, Social Studies, Home Ec. or Ind. Arts (3 days/wk. - 1 sem.), General Music (2 days/wk. - 1 sem.), Art (2 days/wk. - 1 sem.), Physical Education (2 days/wk. - year)

ELECTIVES: Band (2 days/wk.), Spanish (3 days/wk.), Girl's Glee (1 day/wk.) Boy's Glee (1 day/wk.).

7th and 8th Grade Athletics

Football
Girls' Basketball
Boys' Basketball
Wrestling

Girls' Track
Boys' Track

8th Grade Curriculum

REQUIRED: Reading & Communication Skills, English, Math, Science, Social Studies, Home Ec or Ind. Arts (3 days/wk.), Physical Education (2 days/wk.)

ELECTIVES: General Music (2 days/wk. - 1 sem.), Spanish (3 days/wk.), Arts & Crafts (3 days/wk. - 1 sem.), Arts & Crafts (2 days/wk. - 2 sem.), Mech. Drawing (3 days/wk. - 1 sem.), Band (2 days/wk.), Mixed Chorus (1 day/wk.), Girls' Glee

(1 day/wk.), Boys' Glee (1 day/wk.)

Grade 9

REQUIRED: English 9, Algebra I or Gen. Math, Physical Science, Geography-History, Physical Education.

ELECTIVES: Home Ec. I, Industrial Educ. I, Voc. Agriculture I**, French I, Driver Education (either semester)

Grade 10

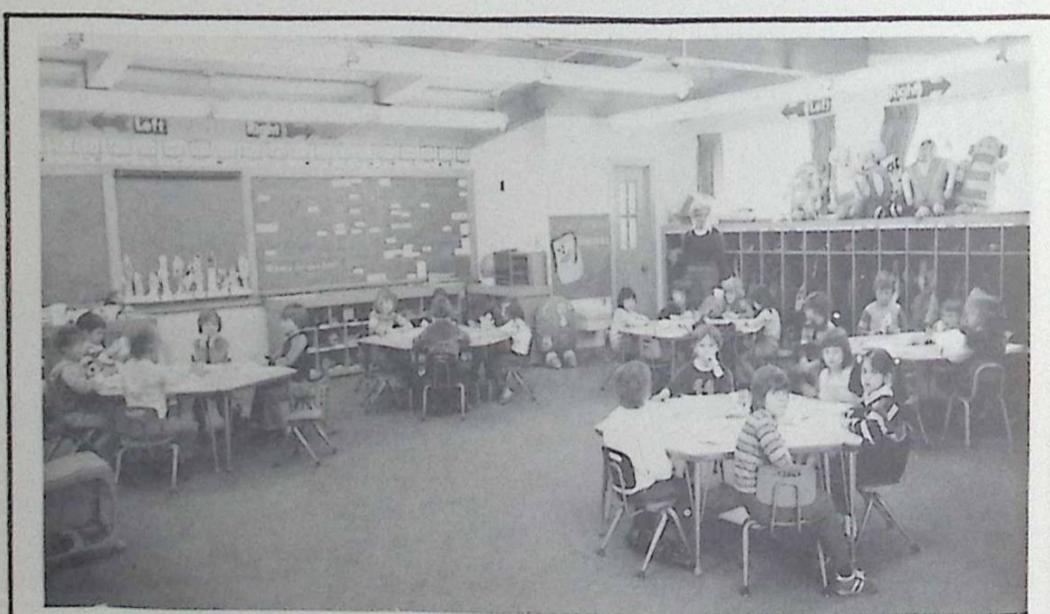
REQUIRED: English 10, World History, Physical Education.

ELECTIVES: Geometry, Biology, French II, General Business, Typing I, Art I, Inter. Clothing (1st), Foods & Nutrition (2nd), Plastics & Metals (2nd) Electricity & Small Gas Engines (1st)**, Crops & Soils (2nd)**, Personal Typing (either semester), Woodworking I, Driver Education (either semester)

Grade 11

REQUIRED: English 11, U.S. History, Physical Education

ELECTIVES: Algebra II, Chemistry, French III, Short-hand I, Typing II, Business Law, Crafts (1st), Drawing & Painting (1st), Pottery & Sculpture (2nd), Adv. Painting & Printmaking (2nd), Consumer Housing (1st), Family Living (2nd), Drafting, Basic Electricity & Electronics,



KINDERGARTENERS in 1979 at Webster have a big, colorful setting for their learning, but they are studying many of the same things that the children in Pella's first kindergarten studied in 1904.

Welding (1st)**, Ag. Management (2nd)**, Music Theory (2nd)

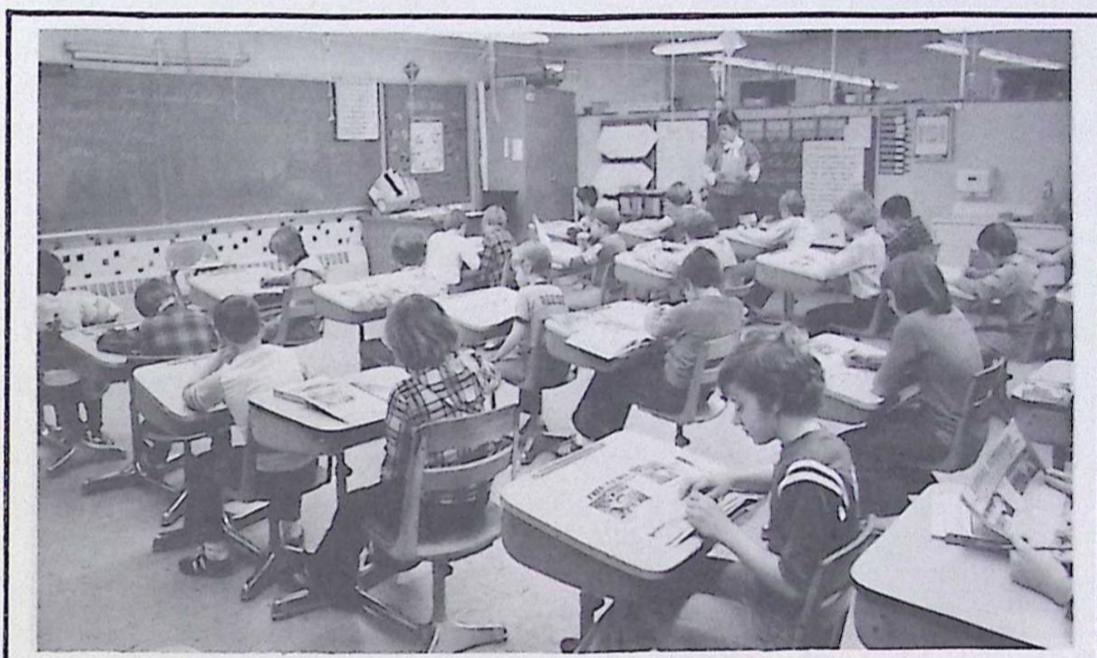
Grade 12

REQUIRED: Government (1st), Economics (2nd), Physical Education

ELECTIVES: English (Contemp. Speaking-1st, Adv. Writing-2nd, Creative Writing-2nd, Theatre and Stage-2nd), College Math, Physics, Office Techniques, Accounting, Modern Problems, Advanced Clothing (1st), Ag. Careers (1st)**, Machinery & Tractor Engines (2nd)**, Environmental Problems (1st), Auto Mechanics, Woodworking II



STUDY HALL was always full in 1949 before anyone thought of "Open Campus." Jane Gosselink, principal, is standing near the windows; Jean Wilkins, science and math teacher, is at the desk on the right.



A WEEKLY NEWSPAPER for elementary school children is a regular part of the curriculum for fourth graders at Lincoln School in 1978.

* This requirement is fulfilled by the required courses in Social Science.
** Project and record book required.

Duties of School Board

Civil Government of Iowa, by N. Rosenberg, published in Chicago in 1886, was a textbook used in the Pella schools in the 1890's.

The author lists the following duties of school board members: Provide six months of school in every district unless excused by



MATH AND SCIENCE courses were increased when the high school moved from old Webster to the Union Street building in 1915. This is a picture of a math class which was in the 1953 Duchess.

the county superintendent, hold regular meetings in March and September, make contracts, change schoolbooks not oftener than once in three years (unless ordered to do so by the electors), levy taxes to maintain schools.

The sub-director, according to the textbooks, must take a census of children in the sub-district, visit school twice each term, select a teacher, make contracts for fuel and maintenance of the school house.

The teacher must turn in all reports before being paid.

The board had the right to limit hiring to a certain class of teachers; for example, a male, a female or those who held a first grade certificate. This certificate was a classification for teachers and had nothing to do with the first year of school.

If I have four apples ...

Two arithmetic books owned by Pete Gaass show how textbooks have changed through the years. One, published in the 1880's, was used by his father, G.G. Gaass, in the Pella schools in the 1890's; the

other, published in 1920, was used by Pete.

From 1880's book:

A farmer cures his hams by the following recipe: For every 100 lbs. of meat, use 9 lbs. of salt, 5 oz. of saltpeter, 4 oz. of ground pepper, and 1 qt. of molasses. What quantity of each ingredient must be used for 675 pounds of meat?

A clergyman had his household furniture insured for \$850 and his library for \$650, at $\frac{3}{4}\%$. What premium did he pay annually?

In a village lot, 66 ft. front by 132 ft. deep, are how many square rods?

From the 1920 book:

Guess how many rods it is to some object. Then measure the distance and see how nearly you guessed it. Repeat this with many objects until you can guess a distance in rods accurately.

How many yards of border are used in papering a room 14 ft. by 18 ft.? What does it cost at 18 cents a yard?

A stack of hay 8 ft. wide, 8 ft. long and 8 ft. high weighs a ton. How many cubic feet is that?

When Mrs. Harris paid her ice bill, she found that she had used 7 cakes. The total weight

was 357 pounds. What was the average weight of each cake?

Get busy

The term "busy work," which has become a derogatory term in the minds of educators and pupils, is used in the manual for Pella Public Schools published in 1892. Teachers of the second primary department are ordered to use "combinations and incomplete problems for 'busy work.'"

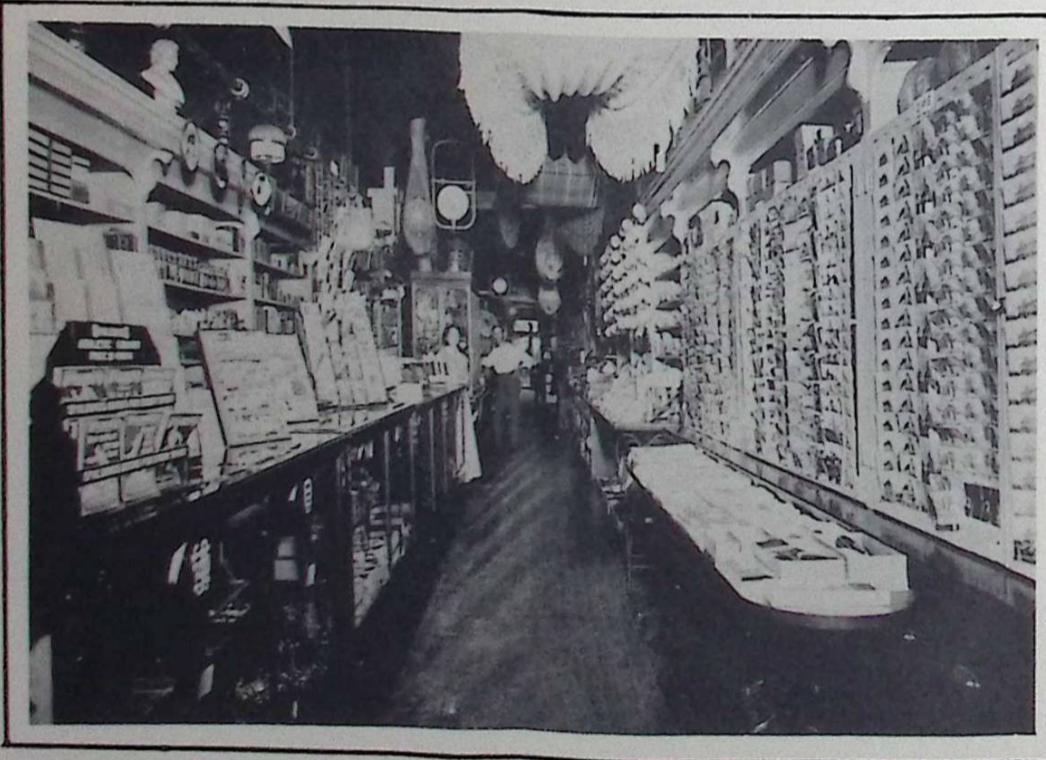
Getting textbooks

Textbooks have changed since the first years of the Pella schools when the teachers and pupils used whatever books were available and seldom had more than a few copies of any book.

In the 1890's, William D. Forsythe, druggist, bookseller and newsdealer, was in charge of ordering textbooks which the teachers wanted students to use and selling them to the students each fall. Most of the textbooks had no pictures. Books were apt to be out-dated; for example, a geography textbook used in the 1890's by G. G. Gaass had been published in 1878.

In the first third of this century, Vander Linden Book Store was in charge of ordering the textbooks. The owner got the list of approved texts from the superintendent of schools and the list of books for rural schools from the county superintendent. "It was a big task to get the books to the children," Mrs. M. Vander Linden recalled in 1979. "Everyone came to buy their books on the first day of school."

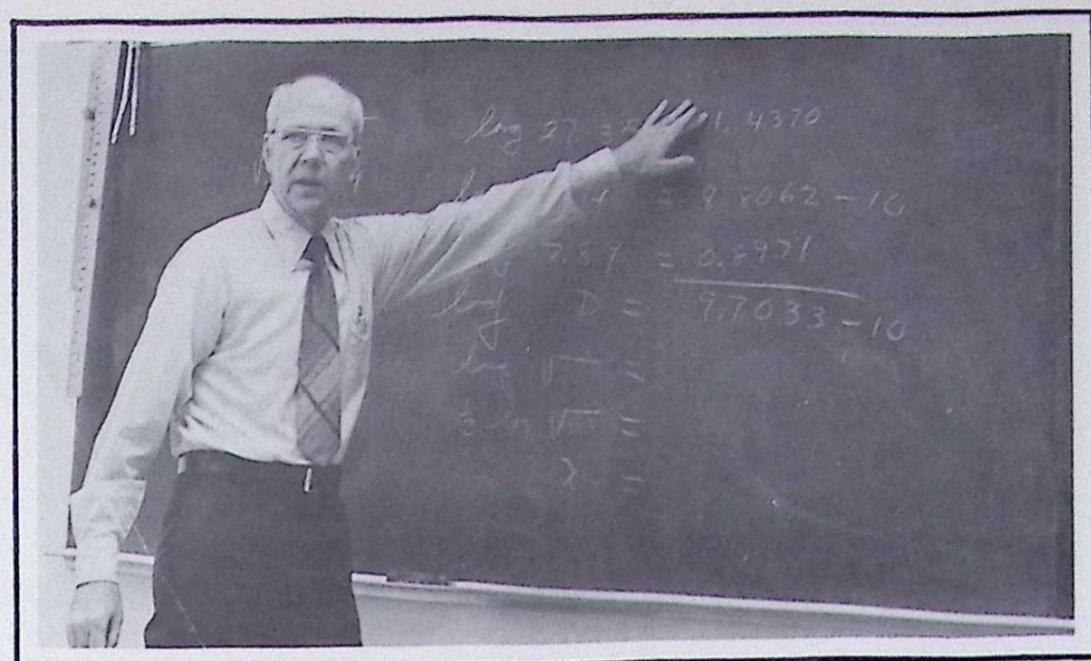
In the late 1930's, the school board began a policy of buying some of the textbooks and renting them to the students. The number of books bought by the school district gradually increased until all of them were



VANDER LINDEN'S BOOK STORE at 812 Main Street in 1909. The store, equipped with gas lights at that time, was crowded in September when children from both town and rural schools were buying their school books.

owned by the school and rented to the pupils. At the end of the school year, the children's book rental money was refunded if the books were in good condition. As the cost of textbooks increased, the refund policy was dropped.

The reams of paper used in the schools in 1980 would have astonished the early board members, teachers and scholars. The school board minutes for September 16, 1889 report that the board voted "to furnish paper for examinations."

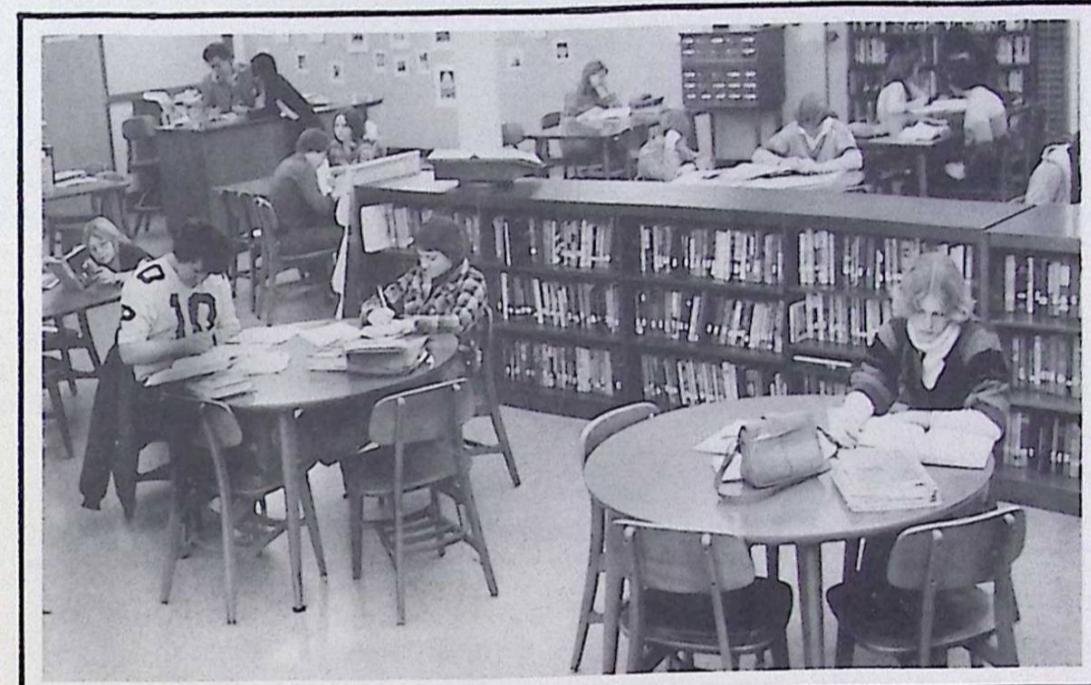


CHALK AND SLATE are used by math teachers in 1980, just as they were in 1847. Then, each student had his own slate. In 1980, each student has his own calculator. The teacher is Ray Doorenbos.

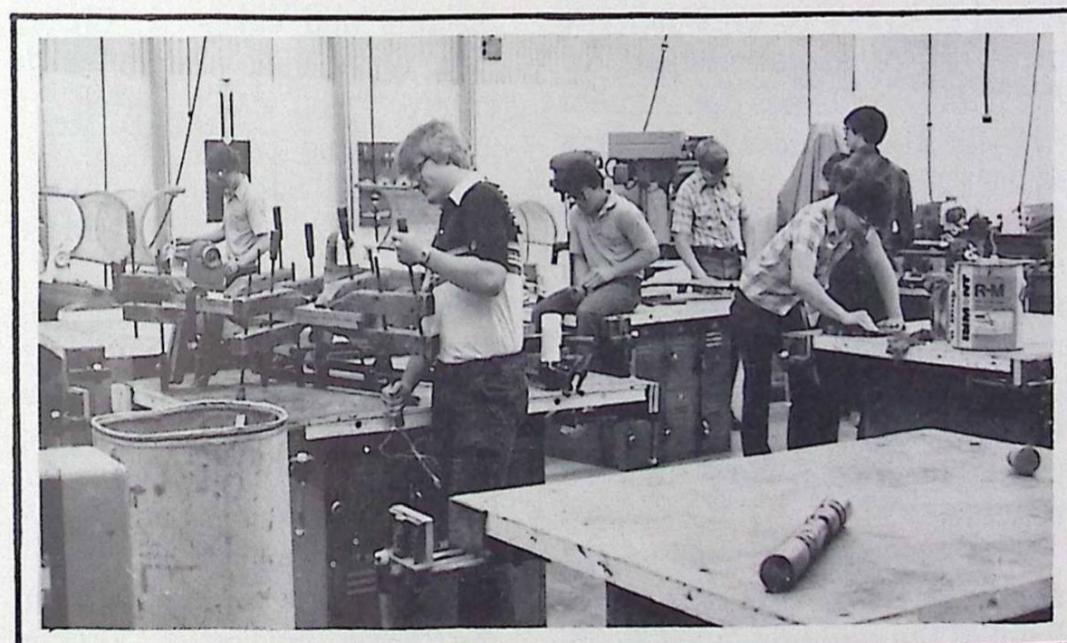
Studies of Studies

A curriculum study committee made up of parents, college faculty, representatives of the school faculty and principals met monthly from 1960 until the end of 1962 studying every grade and every subject being taught in the Pella schools. The committee made recommendations which were used as a guide in making changes in the curriculum.

In 1973, a system was set up for an in-depth study each summer of one of the subjects being taught from kindergarten through high school. A commit-



"THE LIBRARY" used to refer to a small corner of one room. Now, the PHS library has almost 8,000 volumes.

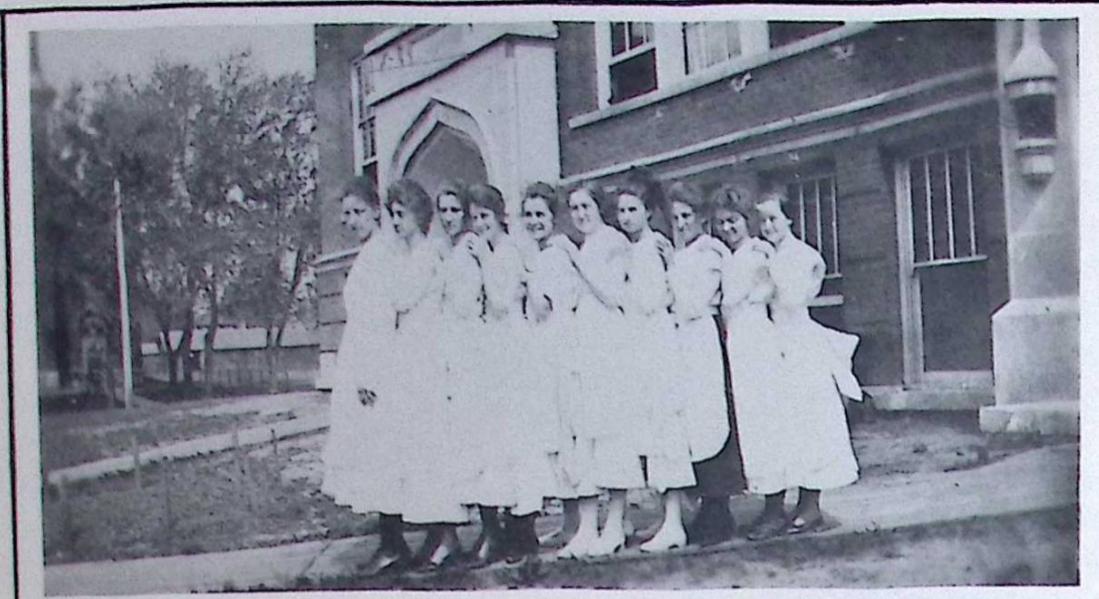


SHOP CLASSES were not needed for the first school children in Pella; they already knew how to use tools. Industrial arts and shop classes have been increasingly important in the Pella schools since they became a part of the curriculum in the first decade of the 20th century.

tee of teachers representing all levels consider textbooks, audio-visual helps, subject matter, and trends in the area.

Take a note, miss

Stenography was introduced as an elective subject in place of solid geometry in the curriculum of Pella High School, according to a report in the **Pella Chronicle**, April 12, 1909. The change was for girls only.



HOME EC GIRLS about 1917, wearing the aprons they made to wear in cooking class.



EIGHTH GRADE GIRLS walked to the new high school on Union Street twice each week for home economics classes in 1916.

Free Pens

In 1912, the school board voted to give each pupil a drawing pencil, a pen holder, pen point and ink.

Home Ec

Source: Ethel Guthrie Lankelma, who graduated from Bradley Polytechnic Institute in Peoria, Illinois in 1914 and came to Pella in 1916. ELH.

The first home economics (or domestic science) teacher at Pella High School was Ethel Guthrie who came to Pella on September 8, 1916, on one of the

six passenger trains which arrived in the town daily.

Prior to the opening of school it had been her responsibility to order all of the equipment for the home economics department in Pella's brand new high school at 712 Union Street. She ordered pans, egg beaters, silverware, dishes, whisks, several kinds of treadle sewing machines and everything else needed for teaching a subject which was just beginning to appear in the American high schools.

The sewing room was on the southeast corner of the lower level of the building, and the kitchen was across the hall, between the two main entrances to the building. She never had an empty spot in her classes

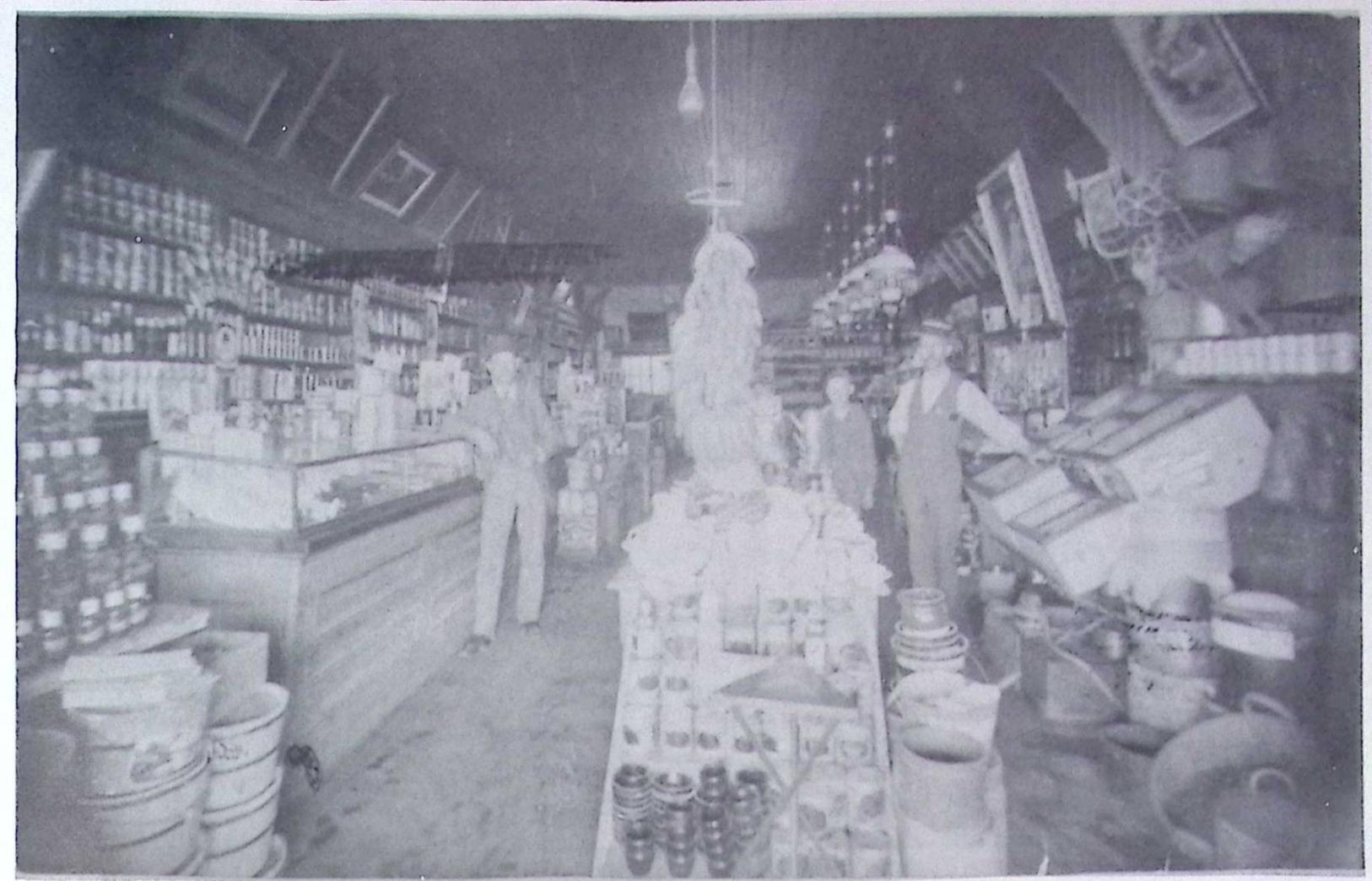
during the four years she taught in Pella. "I don't think it was required," she said in 1980, "but it was a popular class, and all of the girls wanted to take it."

In the sewing room were big tables and four treadle sewing machines. "No one had an electric machine then," she said. The first sewing project in the class was a sampler on which each girl showed the proper way to do many kinds of stitches, for example, gathering, tucks and ruffles. The second project was a little bag made of cotton material, then came a gathered petticoat on a waistband. Each spring, the department store at 626 Franklin (where T and D is now) allowed the girls to use one of their windows to display dresses they had made in class. "Home economics courses were something new, and everyone had an opportunity to look at the things the girls had made," the first PHS home economics teacher said.

The home ec kitchen had a big gas range in one end, one big sink for all 18 girls to use, and nine "lab tables." Two girls were assigned to each table; each table had a pair of gas burners and the spoons, pans and measuring cups the girls would need for the cooking projects. The students made bread, biscuits and cakes. At Christmas time, they always made candy. "You can't watch 18 girls making candy all at the same time. Some of it always turned to sugar," Mrs. Lankelma recalled.

The kitchen had no appliances of any kind. However, since some of the girls came from homes which used a pump for water, kerosene lamps for light, a wood or kerosene stove for cooking and the back porch for a refrigerator, they felt that the home economics kitchen was "very modern."

Each of the girls made an apron to wear in the cooking class. It was of white cotton



THE HOME EC TEACHER and homemakers went to this grocery store to purchase the things they needed. The store had electric lights when the picture was taken but was still displaying kerosene lamps for sale. The glass case on the left was popular with the school children because it contained candy.

with a long gathered skirt that reached almost to the ankles. The top was a bib with straps that went over the shoulders to the waistband in the back.

A couple of days each week, seventh and eighth grade girls walked from the old Webster School to the new high school. Seventh grade girls took sewing, the eighth graders had cooking classes. No boys took any of the home ec classes. At the end of the second year of home ec classes, the girls in the advanced class planned and prepared a banquet for their parents and served it in the sewing room.

One year when she was teaching, the school kitchen was used to prepare a dinner honoring Pella boys who had joined the army to fight in World War I. "We didn't call it World War I," Mrs. Lankelma said. "Everyone thought of it as the war to end wars."

Each spring, the school kit-

chen was used by the mothers of the juniors to prepare the annual junior-senior banquet which was served in the gym. Mrs. Lankelma ordered all of the food needed in the cooking classes, sometimes going to a grocery store and sometimes using the telephone to order what she needed. "They packaged each thing as I asked for it — flour, sugar, butter. The grocer sent a delivery boy to homes or to the school with anything a person wanted and charged it to them," she said.

Teaching home ec was not Mrs. Lankelma's only job in the Pella schools. She was in charge of a study hall in the high school auditorium once a day, and she was expected to walk to the town's two grade schools two or three times each year to direct physical education activities. There was no gymnasium in either grade school, so Mrs. Lankelma was directed to choose activities which children

could do while sitting in their seats or standing in the aisles beside their desks. They did deep knee bends, touched their toes and stretched their arms into the air. She also coached the girls' basketball team in the high school.

While there were a number of cars in Pella in 1916, hitching posts for horses were prevalent around the square and around First and Third Churches near the high school. On Sundays, the area was filled with horses and buggies. "We did a lot of walking," Mrs. Lankelma said.

The annual Pella fair was held each fall. The fairground was located southeast of Pella on the south side of Highway 163. The entrance was where the Martin Hiemstra home and farm buildings now stand. The home ec girls entered canned fruits in what was probably the last year for the Pella fair, and the teacher walked there because she had agreed to be

the judge for the foods portion of the exhibition.

The young people of the town often walked to sites in the rural areas around Pella for parties and picnics. Two popular places were Grundman's Grove north of Pella where the Northwood addition is now, and South Falls located southwest of Pella near the Des Moines River. The falls are on the acreage now owned by the present homemaking teacher of PHS, Joyce Harter Nelson.

Most of the grade school teachers in 1916 were from Pella. "I think this was because many of the children needed to have teachers who could speak Dutch," Mrs. Lankelma said. "Most of the teachers at the

high school were called 'The Outsiders,'" she recalled.

No one should call the first PHS home economics teacher an outsider in 1980. She married Dr. James V. Lankelma in 1920, and a few months later, they moved into their new home at 1307 Main Street where she lived until December, 1979. In 1980, she reminisced about her job as a homemaking teacher and said, "I was awfully busy, but I loved it."

Religious Education

Based on school board minutes and interviews with former teachers and pupils. ELH

From the beginning of schools in Pella, some type of Bible training has been available to the children. The first teachers used Bible stories and psalm-singing in their log-cabin classrooms. Dominie Scholte had a series of classes on the Book of Daniel which was attended by school children and adults.

The school board policy on religion in the schools varied from year to year. Sometimes, the board required each teacher to open the school day with a short devotional period with Bible reading and prayer; sometimes, it was left to the teacher in each classroom to decide how to start the school day. Some teachers had favorite



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION has always been a part of the training for the young people of Pella. At first it was in log cabins, later in the schools, now in the churches under a released-time arrangement. Dottie Cook is the person who was in charge of this program longer than anyone else.

portions of the Bible which they taught to their students year after year. Sometimes the opening classroom ceremonies took on a patriotic flavor with the children pledging allegiance to the flag and singing "The Star Spangled Banner."

From its beginning in 1876 until 1961, the high school had an assembly on Monday morning to begin the school week. This usually included a meditation, Bible reading and hymns. Teachers took turns presiding for these devotional periods.

Many of the rural schools had religious education. Sometimes the classes were taught by the regular teacher; frequently, one of the adults in the neighborhood went to the school one afternoon a week to teach a Bible or catechism class.

In the 1930's, volunteers from various churches went to Lincoln and Webster Schools regularly to teach Bible classes. Generally, each child from first grade through eighth was in such a class for one hour each week on a schedule set up by the ministerial association.

In 1959 the board adopted a policy on released time for Bible study. The classes taught by a certified teacher, hired and paid by the Pella cooperating churches, were held in the elementary schools for first through sixth grades if their parents signed a released time consent slip. The few children who did not attend the religious education classes remained with the regular teacher. The released time religious education classes now are held in Pella churches, one period a week during the school year, taught by a teacher hired by the Weekday Bible Committee. Children from first through fifth grades attend the classes.

Two women have been teachers of the Bible classes since the board adopted its policy in 1959. Dorothy Cook Julian was the religious education teacher from 1958 to 1979, and Diane

Iverson since September, 1979.

Night School

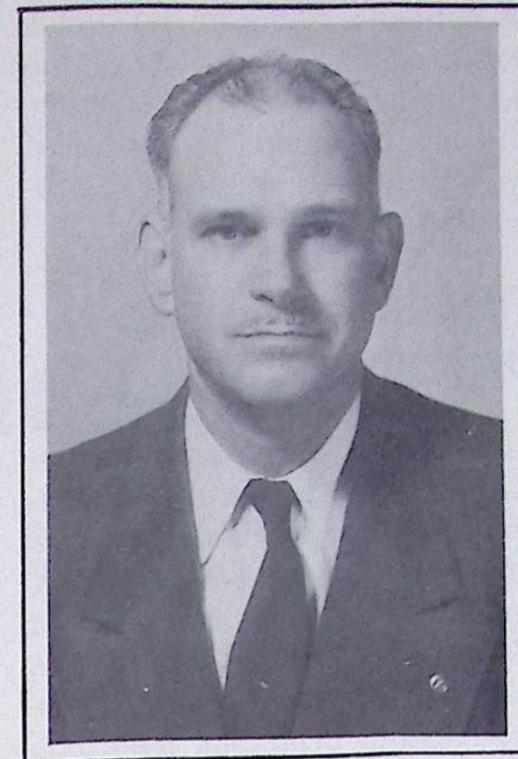
Based on information from M.M. Dockendorff, Pella High School's first night school teacher, and Jake De Haan, supervisor of Veterans' On-the-Farm Training program, 1947 to 1955. ELH

Night school classes were held in the log cabin schools in Pella in 1847 and 1848, the first winter that the first Dutch settlers were in Pella. The main subjects studied in these classes were English and the Bible. The classes probably continued for several years, then the schools of Pella were unused at night except for an occasional program, exhibit or play.

In 1933, a few schools in Iowa began having night school. Pella High School had its first night school class in the fall of 1935. The teacher was M. M. Dockendorff who had been hired in July as the town's first vocational agriculture teacher. Most of the farmers in the area believed that an eighth grade education was sufficient for a farm boy unless he was going to be a minister or a doctor. But the night school class was a big hit with an average attendance of 75 men.

The farmers, most of whom had never been to high school, studied animal husbandry, crops and soils, farm mechanics and farm management. At the end of the 10-week series of night school classes, they received certificates.

The popularity of the vocational agriculture classes and the night school farmers' classes resulted in the construction of a new wing on the east side of the high school for these classes. The vo ag class moved from the tiny room on the



M. M. DOCKENDORFF

southwest corner of the third floor of the high school to what is now the office for the recreation commission in the Community Center, and the vo ag shop moved from the little room behind the furnace in the basement of Lincoln School to a big new shop which is now the nursery school in the Community Center.

Two years after the farmers' night school classes started, homemaking courses were added to the night school schedule, and many adults spent one evening a week at the high school, studying. Soon, typing, shorthand and accounting were added to the night school offerings.

In the 1930's and 1940's, the high school often invited citizens to the high school one night a week to enjoy the films which had been ordered to show to students in regular classes. These showings were not formal night school classes, but they were a popular form of adult education in Pella.

In the 1940's, a series of open forum discussions were added to the night school schedule. The high school auditorium was filled one night each week during the winter as people of the community listened to panels of experts discuss a wide variety

of subjects. Some of the topics explored were religions of the world, developments in science, the use of electricity, political questions, psychology, economics and philosophy.

Title IX Dick and Jane

Based on information from Emma Lou Heusinkveld, part-time English teacher who was appointed to be first Title IX compliance officer for the Pella Community School district in 1976, and Rex Steddom, Webster School principal, who was appointed Multi-Cultural/Non-Sexist co-ordinator in 1977.

ELH

The closing sentence in the introduction to the 1904 handbook for teachers in the Pella schools was "A manly man and a womanly woman are the best products of our schools today."

For more than half a century after that, custom, rules and policies caused boys and girls to be treated differently. Boys took shop; girls took home ec. A complete program of sports for boys was sponsored by the school; girls had basketball some years with the players usually wearing the boys' cast-off uniforms and practicing only when they could fit into the boys' schedule for the use of the gym. Boys had to have their hair cut short; girls could let theirs grow as long as they wished. Teachers sometimes made such comments as, "Boys don't cry," or "Girls usually don't do as well in math as boys." In the children's reading books, Dick did things considered as "boy" activities and Jane did "girl" things.

In the early 1970's, the word "sexist" came into the popular vocabulary to describe the situation; some people in the community formed a task force to check on textbooks, curriculums and policies in the Pella schools, and the U.S. Con-

gress passed Title IX of the Education amendments that stated:

No person shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity receiving federal financial assistance.

Heusinkveld developed a grievance procedure, began an evaluation of practices in dealing with staff and students from kindergarten through high school and tried to make people connected with the school aware of the regulations of Title IX. The first complaint she received was from a group of high school boys whose hair was in the new longer style for boys. They wanted hair dryers in the boys' gym locker room, pointing out that girls had dryers in their locker room. She investigated and learned that dryers for the boys already had been ordered.

Based on the Title IX requirements, the middle school and high school began co-educational PE classes in 1978 and added more sports for girls. Co-ed PE on Fridays had been added a few years earlier.

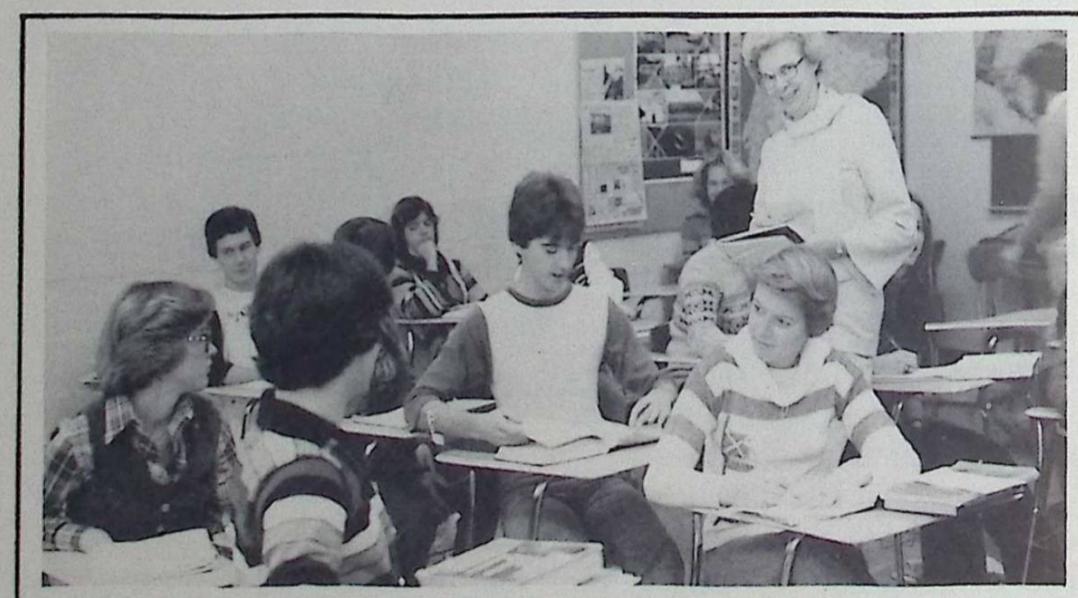
In 1975 the Iowa Department of Public Instruction ruled that the curriculum in Iowa schools should reflect the cultural

diversity of the nation. They mandated that instructional materials, curriculum content and teaching patterns in no way condition boys or girls for stereotyped roles or careers on the basis of sex or race, calling their regulations "The Multi-Cultural, Non-Sexist curriculum Guidelines for Iowa Schools."

Rex Steddom, co-ordinator for this program, works with an advisory council of 15 citizens. The council has both male and female members, people from different races and people who represent various community segments, such as industry, farming, professions and labor.

Seventy-five years after a handbook told Pella teachers their goal was to train manly men and womanly women, Steddom said:

We hope to create a curriculum which prepares students for work and life in a multi-cultural, non-sexist environment. A student, graduating from school today, who cannot comfortably work with members of other racial or cultural groups or with members of the opposite sex is truly handicapped. It is our responsibility as educators to see that students have mastered the basic skills of human relations.



HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS in 1977 had movable chairs instead of desks bolted to the floor in rows as was done in earlier schools.

Life at School

Clubs and Activities

Memories of Nelle Vander Linden

This account of life in the Pella schools from 1888 to 1901 is based on an interview in January, 1979, with Nelle Vander Linden, one of the members of the Class of 1901 at Pella High School. ELH

The school interests of Nelle Van Vliet Vander Linden extend from the fall of 1888 when she began first grade at the big two-story Webster School built in 1876 to the present, as she listens to her great grandchildren talk about what is happening in the Pella schools.

When she was in the elementary grades, she wore clothes that her mother made for her. In the winter time, her outfit included long woolen stockings worn over long underwear. Her hair was in long curls, always with a ribbon in it.

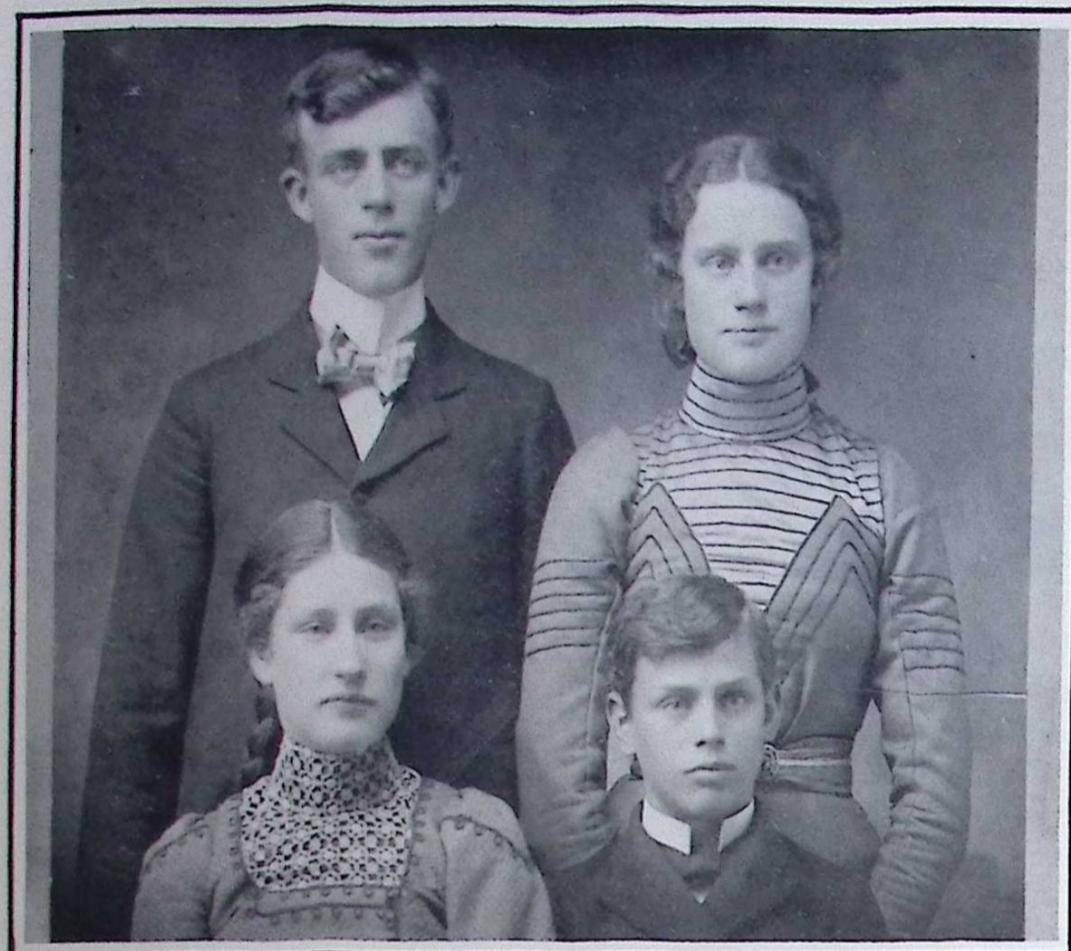
All of the children walked to either Webster School or Park School, and at noon, all of them walked home for lunch. There were no school buses because all of the farm children were attending rural schools near their homes.

Mrs. Vander Linden believes that she studied just about the same subjects as her great grandchildren do but she and her grade school classmates used slates and blackboards instead of tablets, notebooks and overhead projectors.

School programs were given in what was called "the high school auditorium." It was a big room across the east side of the second floor of the building. The programs consisted of recitations, essays written by the students and music, both vocal and instrumental. Both the special programs and the daily school sessions began with devotions presented by a student or one of the teachers. "The students became very familiar with the 13th chapter of I Corinthians because Mrs.



NEW GRADUATION CLOTHES were the custom for the students who graduated from Pella High School in the first decade of the twentieth century. Nelle Van Vliet Vander Linden, one of the three girls in the Class of 1901, wore a dress made by the mother of one of the graduates who made identical dresses for all of the girls.



THE VAN VLIET BROTHERS AND SISTERS attained the goal set by their parents — all received a diploma from Pella High School. The parents never went to high school. In front are Nelle and Sam; in back are Carrie and John.

Mair always read that when it was her turn," Mrs. Vander Linden recalled.

In 1979, Mrs. Vander Linden still could recite Longfellow's "Psalm of Life" which she learned for one of the programs.

Sometimes, there would be a short vacation in the spring because so many of the boys in the school were needed to help get farm crops planted.

Discipline? It wasn't much of a problem, Mrs. Vander Linden commented. When she was in seventh grade, the boys in the class decided that they wanted to do something to irritate the superintendent, who was one of the high school teachers on the second floor of the building. All 13 boys in the class stomped up the stairs together after lunch. They were successful, they did irritate the superintendent. One of the teachers took all of them into his office, and, one by one, whipped them with a rubber tube.

"We girls just sat there; we didn't know what to do," Mrs. Vander Linden said. "That

stomping happened only once," she added.

What did the parents do? "Why nothing! The teacher's authority was never questioned."

After eighth grade graduation in 1897, most of her classmates left the Pella schools. Some got jobs, some went to the academy at Central College, and a few went to a sewing school being conducted in a private home near the square, or a library school in a home across the street from the square.

Mrs. Vander Linden enjoyed her high school years. She found the subjects interesting — algebra, geometry, English, physiology, geography, history and Latin. If a student wanted to take any music classes, he arranged to study across the street at Central College. There were three teachers: the superintendent, Carrie Edmond and Mrs. Mair.

"We dressed up more for high school than than the young people do today," Mrs. Vander

Linden said. The girls wore skirts and shirtwaists or wool dresses. If it was a really cold day, they would wear their brothers' pants to school under their skirts and remove the pants when they took off their coats. Everyone had handknit scarves. The style for the girls' hair was the pompadour. The girls carefully saved the combings from their long hair to make into "rats" to wrap around their heads as a base for the high hairdos.

Boys wore suits or nice wool pants and sweaters to school. The first day of school, when she was a ninth grader, a graduate of one of the rural schools showed up in overalls. "He wore them just one day; the next day, he had an outfit like the other boys," Mrs. Vander Linden said.

There weren't any school parties, but the students had an interesting social life. There were lots of parties in the homes. Sometimes, a family would move all of the furniture out of the living room and the dining room, and invite a large group of young people in for a party. Entertainment often included charades or the Virginia Reel. Sometimes, a group of friends hired a horse-drawn hack to go out to the Des Moines River for a picnic. Entertainment there included a tug of war.

As she recalls, there were no school-sponsored athletic teams, but the young men in the school were members of community basketball and baseball teams which played teams from other communities.

When graduation day came, in 1901, the class consisted of three boys and three girls. It was a big event in the community, beginning with Class Day, including a banquet for the entire class and their families and ending with a program in the Central College auditorium.

At the banquet, each graduate was asked to give a short

speech, but Mrs. Vander Linden's brother, John Van Vliet, said only "Too full for utterance." The day ended with an out-of-town speaker and formal presentation of diplomas.

Leonora Hettinga Remembers school days

Interview with Leonora Gaass Hettinga, PHS Class of 1932. ELH

Leonora Gaass Hettinga mused "It isn't as human now as it was then," as she recalled the old bell at Webster School which told the teachers and the pupils when it was time to start classes.

The bell rang at 8:30 each school day to tell children of the neighborhood that it was about time to start to school; if a youngster got to school early and asked the janitor nicely, he might be allowed to tug on the rope which rang the bell in the belfry on top of the building. The bell rang again at 9:00, but if the janitor saw a youngster running toward the school, he would wait a moment before he started ringing the tardy bell.

When Leonora went to sixth grade at Lincoln School, she found another friendly, human janitor who knew that she lived a long way from school and usually would peek into her classroom before ringing the 1:30 tardy bell after the hour-and-a-half dinner break to be sure that she had gotten back to school. If she hadn't made it yet, he would find something else to do for a little while before he pulled the rope to ring the tardy bell.

Leonora, the great granddaughter on her mother's side of Dominie Scholte, founder of Pella, was born in what is now the Phi Delta house at 409 West First just north of Gaass Hall on the Central campus. At that



LEONORA GAASS HETTINGA, great granddaughter of the first school inspector of Pella, ready for eighth grade graduation.

time, her grandfather's house was located where Gaass Hall now stands.

She began first grade in the old Webster School in September, 1919, when she was four years old. "Everybody loved old Webster," she commented. She recalls school programs, doing a great deal of memorizing, reciting in the high-ceilinged rooms and recess time when everybody in the school went outside, with the girls usually playing jacks or jumping rope. All of the classes had recess at the same time with the principal strolling around the school grounds.

The second floor of Webster School was called "Junior High School." Seventh graders were at one end of the big east room, eighth graders at the other end. When the eighth graders were having class, the seventh graders had study hall there. Frequently, the teacher gave permission for two students to go sit in the empty portion of the big room "to study together."

"But we didn't study," Leonora confessed. "It was a social time."

Discipline? the principal,

Dora Boatsma, sometimes used a rubber tube to whip pupils who caused problems. "But everyone loved her," Leonora hastened to add.

There were no school parties, but groups of children often got together for parties at their homes. They played organized games such as Spin the Bottle, or did seasonal things, such as bobbing for apples at Halloween.

Children in the grade schools and junior high students put on a program each spring in the high school auditorium. They presented songs, recitations, skits and pantomimes, usually in costumes. Leonora especially remembers the year that she and some of her classmates were dressed as chrysanthemums. The skirts of the costumes were made of crepe paper ruffles slashed into a fringe. Each little piece had to be curled over a buttonhook. The girls who were to wear the costumes spent several afternoons at the home of Mrs. F. M. Frush, whose husband was superintendent of schools, wrapping each little crepe paper strip around a buttonhook until it curled properly.

After finishing eighth grade, each child received a diploma, rolled up and tied with a ribbon. The ceremony was held at the end of the commencement exercises for the Class of 1928 in the high school auditorium.

Leonora was in Pella High School from the fall of 1928 until her graduation in the spring of 1932. The music activities are her clearest memories of high school days. She was piano accompanist for mixed chorus, the glee clubs, and some of the small groups. The school had an orchestra as well as a band. When she was a sophomore, the band got new uniforms, white pants or skirts and green capes.

At Christmastime, there was a concert in the auditorium; it had different names, depending upon the teacher — musicale,

cantata, program. The art students decorated the stage, and the musicians bought or made new clothes to wear for the event. Each spring, the students presented an operetta.

Study hall was in the auditorium. Classes, books and teaching methods all seemed very modern and up-to-date to the students, who had a strong loyalty to their school. Most of them lived in Pella, but a few were from the surrounding rural areas, Leighton, Otley or Harvey.

When she was a senior, Leonora was one of the three people who represented the school at the state typing contest in Des Moines; the team won first place. In their practice sessions and contests at the district level, they started and stopped typing at the sound of a whistle. At the big state contest a revolver was used.

There was no pep club, but there were pep assemblies and an energetic cheering section at football and boys' basketball games. Many girls wore their black gym bloomers and tops in their class colors to the sports events.

Groups of students often had parties at various homes. The young people would pop corn, dance at some homes, or gather around the piano to sing. There were parties and meetings for the youth groups at various churches, and the high school students often went ice skating.

The high school day started with an assembly of all students and teachers in the school auditorium. It ended the same way. And in addition to those two assemblies, there was an assembly of all students before they went home for dinner at noon and when they got back to school at 1:30. Roll was taken at those times, and there were announcements. Sometimes the assembly lasted only a few minutes; other times, there would be a program such as special music, a minister, a

devotional program, school cheers, a speaker on the subject of patriotism, or a program by some of the students.

In the spring of 1930, a smallpox epidemic closed churches and schools and cancelled the spring plays. Semester exams were called off. "That was a good thing; I never could have passed geometry," Leonora said.

Class spirit and loyalty were important aspects of high school life. Freshmen met soon after they enrolled in high school to select their class colors. The Class of '32 chose black and red, and for four years, those students usually wore something black or red to school. When they were juniors, most of them ordered black and red class sweaters instead of class rings.

Except for the painting of class numerals on sidewalks, there were few discipline problems, Leonora said. The sound of the superintendent of schools (F. M. Frush) walking around the high school building jingling his keys was enough to make people behave. Sometimes, a student was expelled from class for a while or kept after school for detention. "Fellows were sometimes whipped in the tool room," she reported. The tool room was usually called the manual training room, but the whippings with that rubber tube sometimes made students call it the cry room. Parents usually backed up the teachers when there was any punishment.

Members of the Class of '32 were the first ones to receive their diplomas in the form of a little book. The traditionalists in the class were upset that they got a little book instead of the traditional rolled diploma tied with a ribbon; the modernists were proud that their class had something new.

That was the end of Leonora Hettinga's connection with the Pella schools until she became

interested in Parent-Teacher activities when her children were in school.

It was not the end of her connection with Pella's history. In 1936, while she was a student at Central College, she was the town's first Tulip Queen. In later years she often had open house at her home, the big house erected by her great grandfather on the north side of Central Park; she has spent much time cataloging its contents. In 1978, Leonora, her brother Pete and his wife Norma gave the house to the Pella Historical Society, reserving the right for Leonora to continue to live in it.

Students make music

Based on material in Central College archives, PHS yearbooks, Marion County History of 1881, school board minutes and interviews with graduates and teachers. ELH

Music has always been a part of the Pella school system. Conducting a daily opening exercise including singing is listed as one of the teachers' duties in the 1892 handbook for Pella teachers. The accounts of the earliest 19th century schools have comments about pupils singing at opening exercises and in music classes; printed programs for class days, graduation and special programs in the last quarter of the 19th century always include vocal or instrumental music or both.

Cox's Light Infantry Band, organized in 1879, usually had some students from Pella High School playing in the group as it gave concerts in Pella and around the state.

On October 12, 1896, the school board voted to add music to the high school curriculum with Principal Lyon as the in-

structor. Lyon left in 1901, and for two decades, the school had a succession of part-time music instructors and supervisors from Des Moines, the Central College staff or someone else in Pella.

The graduates of the first decade of the 20th century report that the high school was too small to have glee clubs or choruses, but soloists, duets and quartets were popular. Students who wanted more musical training went across the street to Central College for lessons.

At the elementary level, there was a music supervisor who visited grade schools regularly to help the classroom teachers with singing. In the 1930's, Ann Tysseling was vocal music supervisor for the entire school system, directing vocal groups at the high school and the junior high and helping the elementary teachers. Lincoln and Webster Schools each had a music room.

By the 1920's, the high school music program included an annual operetta, boys' glee club, girls' glee club and music assemblies. The frequency of the music assemblies varied; some years they were weekly, some years they were every two or three weeks. Musical groups, both instrumental and vocal, performed; song books were often passed out, and everyone sang. The high school had an orchestra and a band, which had been organized to help the town celebrate its 75th anniversary in 1922.

The first instrumental music in the elementary schools was a harmonica band organized in 1928, made up of fifth graders and taught by Dena Ver Steeg. They played four-part harmony and were in demand for programs in other schools and for a concert in the square.

Sparx, the first PHS yearbook, printed in 1934, shows pictures of Boys' Glee Club (22 members), Girls' Glee Club (25 members), the band with 33 members (wearing white pants



THIS HARMONICA BAND, trained by Miss Dena Ver Steeg, in 1928, was the first instrumental music group in Pella's elementary schools. The children learned four different parts so they could harmonize on their harmonicas.

and shirts, green and white capes and overseas caps), the orchestra with 23 members (including some from grade school), and the people who had leading roles in the annual operetta, "Conchita."

One of the high school operettas, "Tulip Time," is credited with being an important part of the impetus to organize the annual festival.

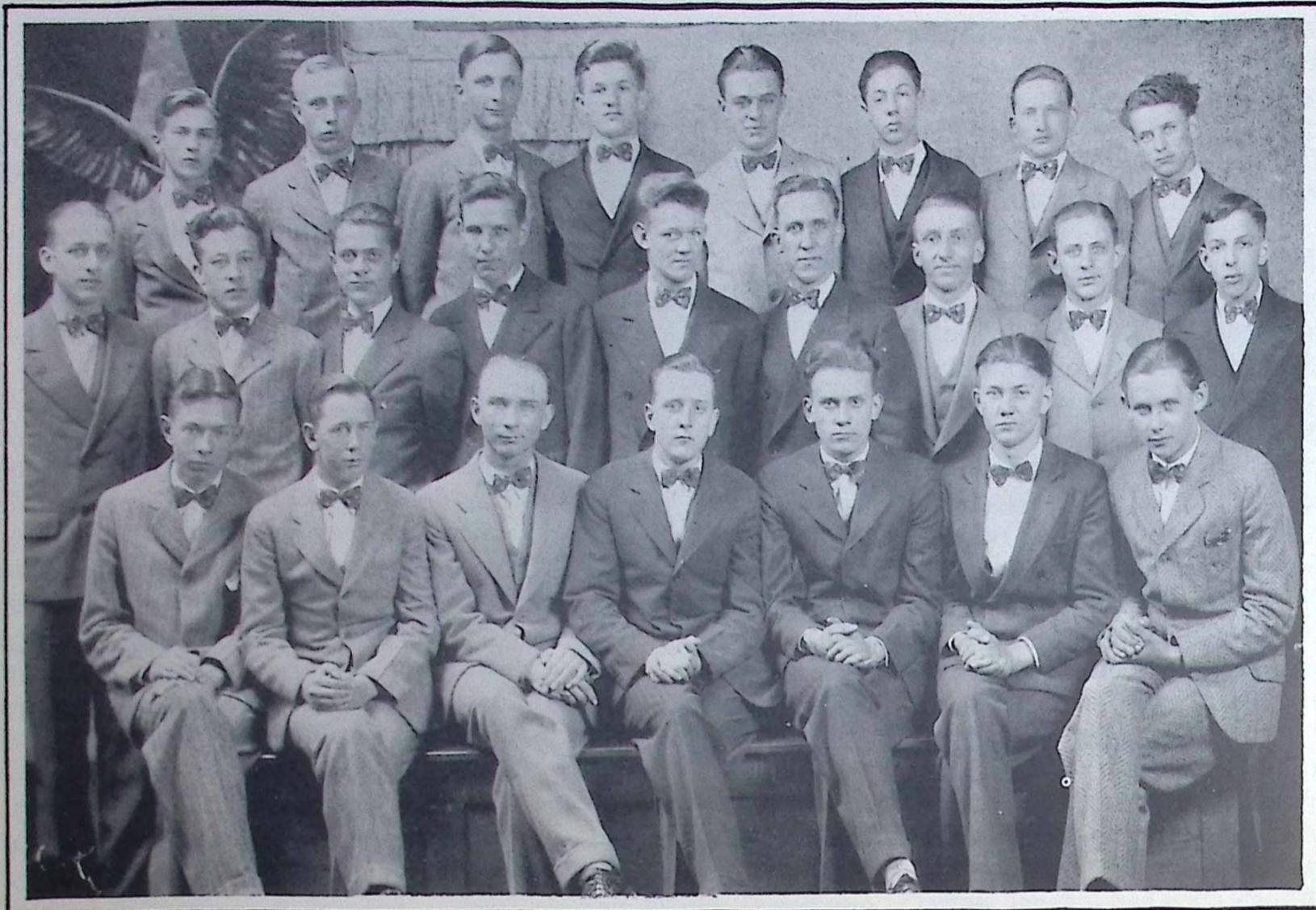
P-43, the second yearbook, which was published in 1943, states that Miss Tysseling had organized the school's first mixed chorus in 1940, but people who were in the school in the late 1920's and the early 1930's report that they had a mixed chorus too. One year, the girls wore white wool dresses and velveteen jackets when they sang in the mixed chorus or the glee club.

In the 1940's and '50's, the high school music groups, directed by Miss Tysseling, presented regular music assemblies, sang at community events and at commencement. The yearbooks of the period picture the singers, with the girls usually in hose and high heels, dark skirts and white blouses,

and the boys in suits, white shirts and bow-ties. In the pictures of the annual Christmas concert, the girls are wearing formals, ballerina-length or floor-length, depending upon the current fashion. Several pages of each yearbook are devoted to portraits of trios, quartets and octets with the boys in suits, the girls in formal gowns, the instrumentalists in their band uniforms.

Other activities for the music groups from the '30's until the high school moved to its present building on East University in 1962 included Glee Club festivals in Knoxville, a broadcast of Christmas music from a Des Moines radio station in 1949, an annual music festival in Monroe, participation in All-State festivals at KRNT Radio theater in Des Moines almost every year after the first one in 1946, participation in the Drama Club's production of "Why the Chimes Rang" in 1948, performances for church programs and organization of a flag corps to perform with the band.

When the high school moved to its present building, the



BOYS GLEE CLUB in 1927-28.

regular music assemblies were dropped. Evening concerts for the public continued. The schedule usually includes concerts in the fall, at Christmas time and in the spring, sometimes with the vocal department and the band separate, sometimes together.

In the '60's and '70's, the large vocal groups continued to be mixed chorus, boys' glee and girls' glee (somewhere along the way, the term "club" was dropped.)

Small vocal groups in this period are sextets, trios, triple trios, duets, octets, quartets, madrigal, and groups whose classification varies — folk singers, jazz choir and swing choir. These groups have had different names: The Young Folk, the Occasional Singers and The Other Side.

Clothing of the singers at their formal appearances has ranged from floor-length formals for the girls and suits for

the boys to whatever school clothes were fashionable at the time.

In 1971 the mixed chorus was filmed for a WHO-TV Christmas special; several years, the band and vocal music departments participated in Fine Arts Night in conjunction with the art department.

During the years when the high school was at 712 Union Street, the art classes decorated the auditorium for the concerts. Decorations and fancy backdrops were prepared for some of the concerts in the present high school gymnasium, but the custom ended with a bang about 1970. A net full of balloons (inspired by a TV shot of a big welcome for a presidential candidate) was placed above the singers. Ken Lucas, the director, recalled the evening. "At a most appropriate time during a number by the Girls' Glee, one of the balloons popped. That was the only time

I ever had to stop a number while both performers and audience laughed," he said.

Since 1930, both band and vocal groups from PHS have participated in contests, winning a variety of honors. At first, these were county contests; in 1979, they are state contests for both small and large vocal and instrumental groups.

Half-time shows for football games, parades, contests, concerts and trips are in the history of the Pella High band. The program has included marching, concert, pep and jazz bands, plus brass choir and small groups.

Following are some of the high points of the PHS band, selected from **Duchess** files:

1936 - Participated in first Homecoming parade for Central College.

1944 - Led Pella High's first Homecoming parade.

1944-45 - Had a monthly

social event for the band members.

1949-50 - Had regular practices at the fire station because there was no room for them in the high school; marched in parade in Oskaloosa.

1950 - Dressed in Dutch costumes for National Plowing Match at Pleasantville.

1952 - Attended music festival in Chicago.

1953 - Played at County Fair, State Fair and Band Day at Ames.

1955 - Marched in Grinnell Centennial parade; played for President of the United States at Iowa State Fair; attended music festival in Chicago.

1966 to 1969 - Participated with Central College and Pella Christian High School in all-city band festival each spring.

1969 - Attended International Band contest and parade at Winnipeg, Canada.

1972 - Won first place in parade and marching contest at Centerville Pancake Day.

1973 - Marched in Dakota Days parade at Rapid City, S.D.

1977 - Represented Iowa at Cherry Blossom Festival in Washington D.C.

In 1969, the band, vocal music and drama departments worked together to present a Broadway musical, reviving an earlier tradition. They stage a major musical every other school year. Their productions were:

1969 - Music Man

1971 - Lil' Abner

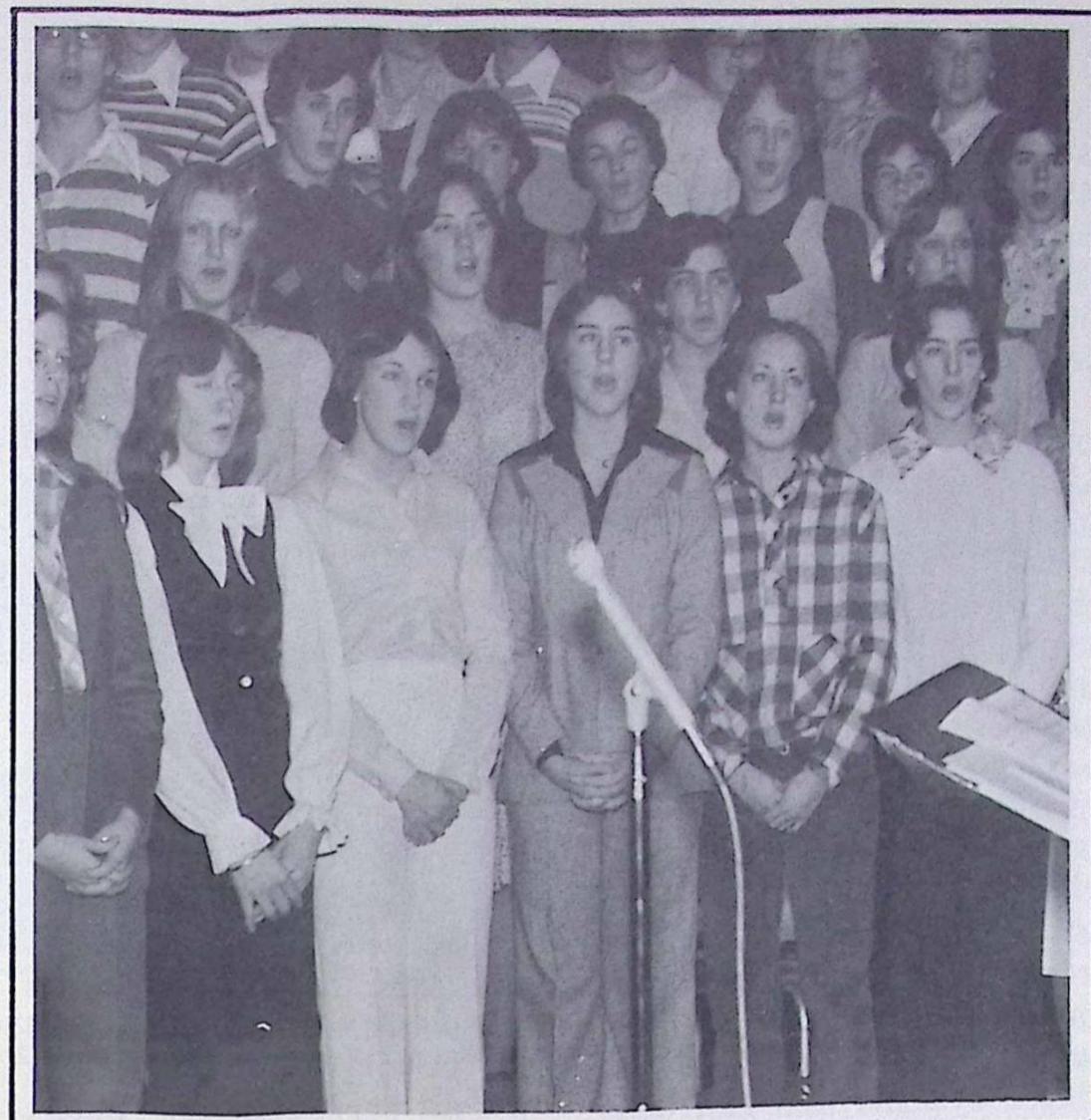
1973 - South Pacific

1975 - Paint Your Wagon

1977 - Bye-bye, Birdie

1978 - Oklahoma!

CARNABY CLUB was first produced in 1970 by the band and the vocal department right after Tulip Time to raise money to buy a memorial for Diane Van Vark, a sophomore who had died of leukemia during the school year.* The event was staged in the gymnasium with students presenting a variety of musical entertainment for an



MIXED CHORUS IN 1977-78.

audience sitting at card tables, eating popped corn and drinking pop. The evening was such a success that it became an annual event. Two years in the '70's, the home economics department prepared a buffet supper to serve before the program.

In 1977, the Marching Dutch (a name adopted in the early '70's) switched to a new type of activity, corps marching. Their accomplishments include:

1977 - First place at the Drake Relays parade; I rating at State Marching Band Contest; Class A Champion at Davis County Field Competition; most I ratings at State Small Group Contest.

1978 - I rating at State Large Group Contest; I rating at State Marching Band Contest.

1978 - Class A Champion at South Central Iowa Band Association Jazz Festival; 3rd place at Davis County and Knoxville marching competitions (behind the bands ranked

3rd and 4th in the United States); most I ratings at Small Group Contest; second place in Drake Relays Parade.

1979 - third place at Davis County Band Festival; Number I rating at State Marching Band Contest; second place, Knoxville Marching Competition; second place, South Central Iowa Band Association Jazz Festival.

The junior high music program developed gradually, having characteristics of both the elementary and the senior high programs. In 1980 the Middle School shares a vocal music teacher with the high school and two instrumental teachers with the fifth grade. Another music teacher works with vocal music in fifth grade and Middle School. The school has large and small vocal groups and a marching and concert band.

There are general music classes for all sixth and seventh graders in Middle School; music is elective for eighth graders. The school has two concerts a

year; the setting was the Middle School auditorium on Union Street until the new high school auditorium was completed in 1977. The school has concerts for the student body in the Middle School gym, and the students attend an all-day conference music festival.

In 1980 the elementary music program for children from kindergarten through fourth grade is based on the Orff-Kodaly technique. Following this philosophy, the children learn about music, experience it and explore it. Each building has a music room where twice a week every child has music classes which include singing, movement, rhymed speech and reading musical notes. A piano is seldom used, and the children accompany their singing with tambourines, sticks, triangles, wood blocks, hand drums, finger cymbals and marracas. Each school has several barred instruments (xylophone, mellophone and glockenspiel). Fourth graders begin playing the recorder, a wind instrument. When they are in fifth grade, children may begin the study of band instruments. The only programs which the children prepare are the Christmas

assemblies in their own school. Webster and Lincoln have special classes for children who are musically talented and gifted.

* FOOTNOTE: The money was used to buy the two locust trees in front of the high school, west of the flagpole.

Drama in Pella

Sources: *School board minutes, file of PHS yearbooks, programs in Central College archives, and conversations with PHS drama coaches, past and present. ELH*

Pupils of Pella have performed for audiences almost from the beginning of the schools. A part of the training in the private log cabin schools which preceded the public schools was learning Bible stories, poems and songs to be presented for programs for the other pupils or for parents.

Soon after the high school was organized in 1876, an annual event called "Class Entertainment" began. A newspaper report in February of 1891 tells of the annual event of the Pella

Public Schools with each class from seventh grade through high school presenting a portion of the program. Readings, recitations and declamations ending with "The Class Song" were given by each class.

The seniors asked the school board for permission to present a class play in 1907 as a part of their graduation activities. The minutes of the board meeting do not record how the members reached their decision, but they turned down the request.

Probably the first real play staged by a group of Pella school students was May 7, 1909. "Jack and the Beanstalk" was presented by a cast and chorus including children from the grade schools and the high school. Director was Carrie Cox.

In March of 1909, the senior class again requested permission to stage a play in the opera house the last week of school. This time, the board approved, and the seniors presented "The Professor's Predicament," a comedy in four acts, on May 27. Peter Kuyper had a leading role; music was furnished by the high school chorus and orchestra. Admission was 25 cents.

In 1910 the seniors gave a play entitled "When Duty Calls" with a Civil War setting in Georgia. A tradition had been established. Pella High School probably has had at least one play every year since then.

Acknowledging the fact that some people in Pella believed that plays were a wicked waste of time and energy, the directors often chose plays that had a moral message for the audience. In 1913 Ann Bailey, music supervisor, directed a presentation called a "School Festival" with a large cast which included a queen, a character called Persevering and other characters called Quarrelsome Scholar, Generous Scholar and Selfish Scholar. Fifth, sixth and seventh graders



MIDDLE SCHOOL BAND practices in their new music room in 1978.



SCHOOL PLAYS were produced on the stage of the building at 712 Union for 63 years. This was the cast of the Junior Class play, "Seventeenth Summer," presented October 5, 1950.

had the main roles, assisted by some of the members of the high school chorus.

Plays rapidly gained in popularity. They were good entertainment, and they also were an excellent way to raise money. In February, 1922, a school play called "Professor Pepp" helped to clear up the deficit in the athletic fund. The play was such a hit that it was staged again in March. Admission was 25 cents.

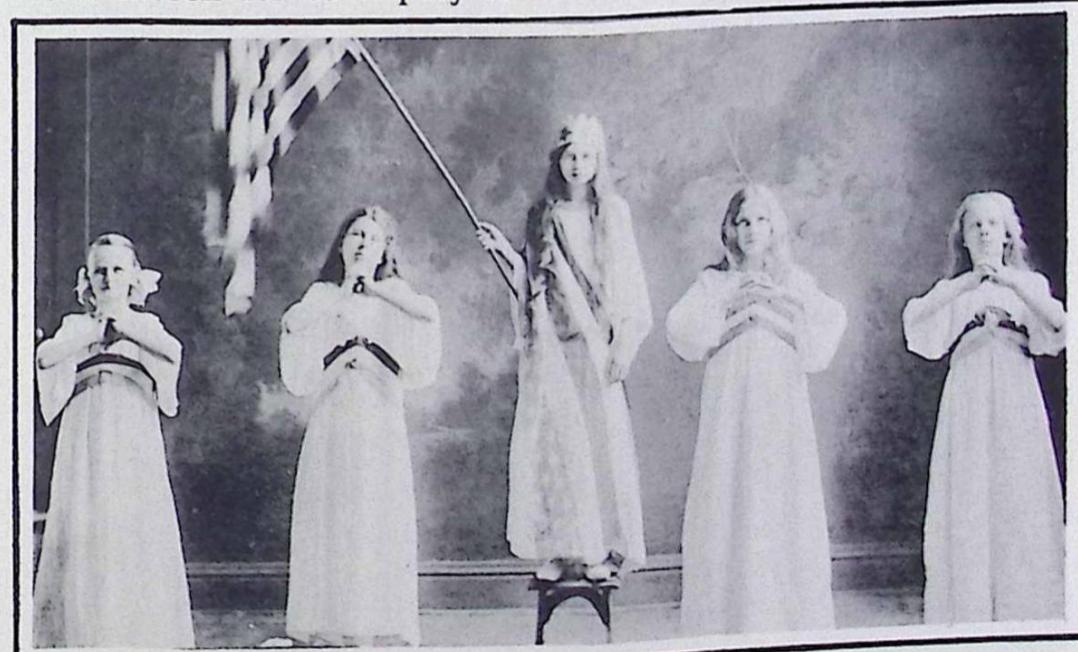
The senior class play was so successful in the spring of 1923 that the drama director decided to have two senior class plays the following year. The Class of 1924 presented a play in the fall plus the senior play which by then was traditional for graduation week.

In the 1930's, declamatory contests were important in the upper grades and the high school. Some years, 100 Pella students participated. There were local, county and district contests with large audiences attending and medals presented to the winners. Three plays were presented each year; a

junior play and an all-school play plus the annual senior play in the spring. Grace Wesselink Meredith, who was English teacher and drama coach at the high school during the depression years, said, "The main things I thought of when I chose a play were: Is there any royalty? and How much will it cost to stage it?" Frequently, two casts were chosen for each play so

that more students could have the fun of being in a play.

When Maurice Birdsall who later became a teacher at Central College, joined the PHS faculty in 1938, he added a fourth play to the annual schedule. There was a "town show" each year featuring townspeople in addition to the high school students. He and Ann Tysseling, the music supervisor, worked



PANTOMINING "THE STAR SPANGLED BANNER" in a program at the high school during World War I is this group of Lincoln School sixth graders taught by Miss Martha Ver Heul. Posing for the line "And this be our motto, 'In God Is Our Trust'" are Marion Frush, Lenore Ballenger Wassenaar, Sybil Terpstra Schott and Dena Ver Steeg who later became Lincoln's principal.

together to present several musical productions, including a Gilbert and Sullivan operetta. His goal each year in choosing the school plays was to present a variety for each theater season. "We had comedies, mysteries and serious plays," he said. The year that a group of the students went to the state dramatics contest with an excerpt from the play "Henry Aldrich," they won first place.

The community play was dropped as a school project during World War II but was revived as a community and college project in 1976. In 1980, a community theater group is growing stronger and is presenting one play each year with casts made up of high school

and college students as well as adults.

In the 1960's, plays were added to the activities for junior high students.

Wil Kirschman became drama coach at PHS in 1964. He has been drama coach in the Pella schools longer than anyone else. In February, 1980, he directed his 33rd play in Pella. He directed six musicals in conjunction with the vocal and band departments. His actors worked on improvised stages in the cafeteria and the gymnasium at the high school, in the junior high auditorium and at the Central College Drama Workshop before the new school auditorium was completed.

Sparx Precedes Duchess

Source: File of Pella High yearbooks. ELH

In 1934, Pella High School's first yearbook was published under the name "Sparx." The book, edited by Ralph Manning, had a soft cover and was tied with a silk tassel. It focused on the activities of the seniors, including several pages for the class history, prophecy and will, plus a jingle two pages long that included the names of all 39 of the graduates. Beside each senior portrait, following the yearbook style of the time, the staff printed the senior's



OLD AND NEW are suggested by this picture, taken in 1977 at the first event in the new high school auditorium. Skit Night is an old tradition from the 1940's, but the students updated it with ideas from a TV show and the school's TV camera as a stage prop.

nickname and a quotation they felt applied to him, such as "I'm not the least bit afraid of work. I can sleep right along side of it."

The lack of money during the Depression years which followed, and the paper shortages of the World War II years prevented publication of another Pella High School annual until 1945 when Verla Vander Streek and Bill Olcott were co-editors of "Pellascope."

The Class of 1946 voted to publish a yearbook and selected the name "Duchess." Every year since then, an annual has been published under that name with its contents varying according to the students involved and the changing fashions of yearbooks.

When it was the fashion to have the principal write something for the yearbook forward, Jane Gosselink wrote (in 1946), "Congratulations to the Class of 1946. You are the first group to graduate to this new post-war world. Previous classes have won the war. To you comes the even more difficult task of winning the peace." That book was dedicated to five former students who lost their lives in World War II — Lt. Dan Roy Meulpolder, Seaman Second Class Rudy Schilder, Lt. (JG) Gerrit H. Wormhoudt, Pfc. Virgil Ray Veldhuizen and Technical Sergeant Fifth Class Arlie M. Cummings.

For several years, most of the yearbook pictures were taken on one day. Various clubs and musical groups lined up on risers in the gym to have their pictures taken. Basketball and football players were in carefully posed "action shots."

Until the early 1960's, the senior class voted each fall on whether or not to have a yearbook, and the staff was made up almost completely of seniors. Most of the pages were devoted to senior accomplishments, activities and pictures, often including baby pictures of the



FOR THE FIRST YEARBOOK ever published by PHS students, SPARX, 1934, the typing and shorthand contest team went to a photographer's studio to pose with their first place trophy from sectional contest. Teacher (back row on left) is Evelyn Dodson.

seniors. Inside jokes mystify the reader, such as "Remember the contest, Hank?" which appeared in the 1951 edition.

The book was published without a volume number until 1967 when a member of the staff commented, "My mother worked on the first Duchess." The staff did some research and learned that they were working on the 21st Duchess. The volume number has appeared on page one of the book each year since then.

Two almost complete files of the Duchess exist. One is in the storeroom of Pella High School, and the other is at Carnegie-Vierson Library.

Editors of the Duchess

1946 - Dolores McConeghy	Lee Van Hemert
1947 - Colleen Renaud	1954 - Joyce Leu
1948 - Mary Jane Menninga (This was the year that Pella celebrated its centennial, and the book was dedicated to the founders of Pella.)	1955 - Joan Gosselink
1949 - Peggy Leu	1956 - Joyce Van Roekel
1950 - Tomie Ikuta	1957 - Norma De Bruin
1951 - Marlene Sels and Leo Renaud	1958 — Donna Klyn
1952 - Peggy Kuiper and Murl Grandia	1959 — Dolores Van Roekel and Linda Glendening
1953 - Shirley Hoeksema and	1960 - Beverly Boatsma and Marilyn Van Dusseldorp
	1961 - Janny Huyser and Dixie Riggen
	1962 - Jan Kregel, Joyce Garrett and Lewis Vande Voort
	1963 - Robert Staal
	1964 - Jean Paul and Linda Ward
	1965 - Judy Steenhoek and Lynn Van Tuyl
	1966 - Connie Ter Louw and Janice Mathes
	1967 - Glenda De Heus and Wayne Frank
	1968 - Myra Heusinkveld and Calvin Van Nieuwaal
	1969 - Gloria Vander Wilt and Alvin Van Roekel
	1970 - Suzie Ryerson
	1971 - Jerry Vroegh and Ginger Heusinkveld
	1972 - Debbie Rydstrand and Debbie De Jong
	1973 - Barb Hoekstra and Kathy Vines
	1974 - Kathy Vines and Barb Hoekstra

1975 - Stephanie Harvey
1976 - Pam Sagraves and Lori Humphrey
1977 - Doraine Meyer and Deb Verros
1978 - Jan Vandenberg and Joan Vanden Berg
1979 - Anna Noel
1980 - Darcy Verros

Student council began in 1939

Sources: *Minutes of Student Council for most of the years since it was organized and PHS yearbooks. ELH.*

Activities and membership of the Student Council have varied since its organization in 1939. About the only thing that remained the same was the election of a representative from each club to serve on the Council. As clubs have come and gone, the list of organizations represented has changed. When the school had homerooms, each homeroom elected a representative. A revision of the constitution in 1960 changed this to the election of one boy and one girl from each class.

In the days before hot lunch, Student Council members took sack lunches to school once a month and ate together as they discussed their business. Since moving to the present building in 1962, they have met during school time on a schedule that varies from year to year.

The Council's duties have changed as school situations changed. For example, until the snack bar was closed in the 1970's, the Council decided which organizations would run the money-making facility. Until the annual all-school Christmas party was dropped in the late 1970's, members planned the event. Until all-school assemblies died in 1973, they chose the programs. At basketball games in the Union Street building, they awarded the coat check concession.

When the school had open house during National Education Week in the 1950's, Student Council members served as guides. When citizenship awards were presented from the 1940's until the Student Council voted to abolish them in 1970, Council members were in charge of the selection.

At various times they decorated a school float for the Tulip Time parades, sold season tickets for special assemblies, and handled season tickets for basketball games before the student activity card was inaugurated.

Student Council members worked on many codes, rules and policies for adoption by the faculty or the school board. They wrote rules for locker inspections, selecting a Homecoming queen, open study hall and election of class officers and a dress code and helped to form semester test policies.

Some resolutions by the Student Council are no longer followed; for example, the policy that a boy's hair must be cut short enough that his ears show and his bangs do not get in his eyes (April, 1968.) Other suggestions are still followed; for example, the idea that different classes be dismissed for lunch at different times so "the same people aren't always first in the lunch line;" posting lunch menus so students will know what is to be served; having chocolate milk once a week for lunch; and having school dances in the cafeteria instead of in the gym.

Student Council has sponsored many different things since it was organized, including all-school parties at the Legion Hall after home football games for several years after World War II, fingerprinting of everyone in the school by the State Bureau of Investigation in 1952, the sale of Friendship Bonds to raise money for the AFS program in 1964, collecting used clothing to send to a school

in Essie, Kentucky in exchange for a big box of mistletoe at Christmas time, and all-school Christmas parties.

The recommendations the Student Council has passed for consideration by the faculty or the school board usually have asked for more freedom for the students — open campus, honor study halls, earlier dismissal, more Bermuda Shorts Days, more Skip Days. But when a small group of students first presented a resolution to make Pep Assemblies optional, they met with opposition from other Council members, and it was several years after it was first presented that this idea of more freedom for students was approved by the Council and recommended for acceptance by the faculty.

In some ways, Student Council has been about the same during all of its years. Subjects which have come up over and over again for almost half a century include locker rules, changing rules for semester tests or eliminating the tests, having a smoking room for students, earning credit for being in band, revising rules for class officer elections, revising policies about PE classes, handling vandalism, having more holidays, having shorter school days.

An excerpt from the Student Council minutes for September 16, 1959, is on a perennial subject, student behavior in the halls:

Miss Gosselink led a frank discussion on dating in the halls of the school. She said the teachers had decided that a "hands-off" policy should be taken by the student couples. The time and the place for dating should be restricted to out of the school halls. Miss Gosselink suggested that any regulations should be established before school starts in the fall. We discussed how a punishment should be administered and

how it could be carried out. Several students felt the action must be drastic or not at all; but others wanted to set the limit at hand-holding.

Clubs Come and Go at PHS

Based on Duchess files, newspaper files and interviews with teachers and students, past and present. ELH

In the 19th century, the enrollment of Pella High School was small, and the only extra-curricular activities were related to declamation and music.

Each class had some of the characteristics of an exclusive club, and students did not feel the need for any other type of organization in connection with school. Each class had parties, usually in the homes of students. In the first decades of the 20th century, the classes had become too big for most homes to be the scene of a class party, so these get-togethers often were held in the old Scholte Church in the 700 block on West First Street. Skating was the main activity at these parties. Hayrack rides also were popular.

Sports appeared at the high school before 1900 with the teams often going by such names as "The Basketball Club." Probably the first club at PHS was the Normal Training Club which was organized about 1915.

Several other organizations have been formed among the students based upon current interests and have dissolved when those interests waned or when the students who were particularly dedicated to the club graduated and were replaced by students who had other interests.

Here is a brief history of most of the clubs which have existed at PHS.

Normal Training Club

A group of students who planned to be rural school teachers were the organizers of the Normal Training Club, probably the first club at PHS. The date was about 1915. The members of the club were enrolled in the normal training course which focused on preparing them to pass the county superintendent's test for rural school teachers given each spring. The club died in the early 1940's when the normal training course was cut from the high school schedule because of more stringent state regulations for teacher training.

Ukelele Club

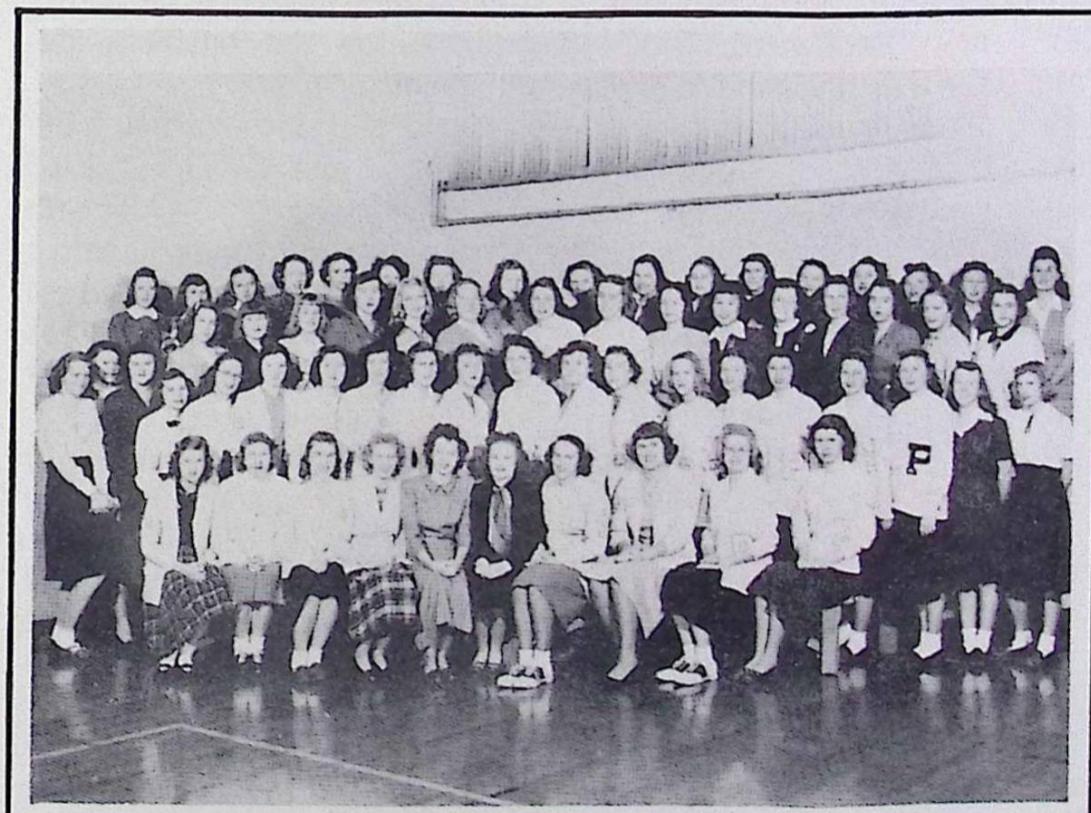
In the early 1920's, there was a Ukelele Club which met regularly, practiced and performed. Members played their ukeleles and sang at school assemblies and for programs in Pella.

Girls' Recreation Association

Girls of Pella High School organized in the early 1940's to have a taste of the athletic program which the boys had. The group was called Girls' Athletic Association later changed to Girls' Recreation Association.

Until the late 1960's, it was a popular organization, sometimes having half of the girls in the high school as members. The girls had a variety of activities. They participated in playdays with girls from neighboring towns, took a first aid course, went on hikes, organized informal basketball games with teams from towns in the athletic conference, set up a point system for earning a GRA lapel pin, and sponsored intramural basketball and volleyball tournaments. They had skating parties, hobo parties, swimming parties and picnics at Skunk Hollow and at Big Rock Park. In 1953, they had a special project of producing one-act plays; for several years, they presented a skit for the annual Homecoming Skit Night.

In the late 1960's the popularity of the organization dwindled and by the school year of 1973-74, it no longer existed.



SOMETIMES IT WAS G.A.A. (Girls' Athletic Association), other years it was G.R.A. (Girls' Recreational Association). This was the group in 1948.

Chess Club

A chess club was organized in the late 1960's and met regularly for a few years. Its goal was to teach students to play chess and to improve their abilities at the game.

Key to Tomorrow

In 1947 a group of students organized KTT, affiliated with the World Federalists, to discuss world problems, particularly the question, "Is a Third World War Inevitable?" The school yearbook for that year reported that the members "gave a discussion on brotherhood and racial prejudices before the student body and had a social function." For several years KTT gave assembly programs for the student body, had monthly meetings at members' homes to discuss world affairs, had parties and organized hayrides.

In February of 1951, the KTT members forgot world problems long enough to start a new tradition at PHS — Patch Day. Based on a fad that was sweeping the country under different names such as "Sadie Hawkins Day" or "Backward Day," Patch Day was designed to give girls a chance to ask boys for a date. On Patch Day, following carefully written rules, a girl could put her "patch" on a boy, and that meant he would go with her to an all-school party.

In the spring of 1955, KTT had a hayride and never met again.

Pellatrons

Pellatrons was the science club organized in the early 1940's with the science teacher, John Groendyke, as sponsor. The members, all boys, did experiments, particularly in electronics. They also were in-

terested in photography and did their own darkroom work. Occasionally the members put on a program at one of the all-student assemblies.

The club died after a few years, but the sponsor recalled in 1979 that several of its members went on to careers in science.

Commercial Club

Commercial Club was organized during the 1946-47 school year with Miss Lois Sayler, commercial teacher, as sponsor. Members were girls who had earned certificates for speed in typing and shorthand. The group was a combination study group, service club and social organization.

For almost two decades, the members had a variety of money-raising projects — selling headscarves, Christmas cards and stationery, and having soup suppers and bake sales. They usually spent the money on a trip to Des Moines to visit various types of businesses and on the rental fee for a dictaphone for the business department.

Social activities varied from year to year. They had Christmas parties, Valentine parties, mothers' teas, picnics, annual banquets and annual spring breakfasts. Several years, the club members put together an act for skit night.

In 1953, members decided to change the name of the organization to S.T.O.P. Club. During the two years that they used this name, club members never revealed what the letters stood for, except to new members at the initiation ceremony. In 1956, the *Duchess*, school yearbook, was again reporting activities of Commercial Club.

Librarians' Club

Fifteen girls organized a Librarians' Club in 1946. For about 25 years, members of the club helped in the school library, had a few parties each year and sometimes drew names to give each other presents at the club's annual Christmas party. For a few years, they went out to dinner together once a year.

Photoplay Club

In the 1950's, there was a Photoplay Club with members going to movies together then going to each other's homes to discuss the film and have refreshments.

Service Club

Service Club was organized in 1976 with the goal of helping with community activities. The club lasted for two years.

Latin Club

Latin was taught in Pella High School during the 19th century, dropped for awhile and then added again in 1900 and taught until the late '60s.

During the 1958-59 school year, following the trend to have school clubs dedicated to almost any interest shown by students, Latin Club was organized as a chapter of the Junior Classical League. The purpose of the club, stated in its constitution, was "to supplement the Latin courses and promote interest in classical languages."

The group was an active one — parties, movies, meetings, formal initiations and trips to

state and national meetings of Latin students.

Club members had a Saturnalia at Christmastime with freshman Latin students serving the meal to the others who were wearing their home-made versions of Roman togas and lying on the floor to eat in imitation of the textbook pictures of Latin emperors.

As the number of PHS students taking Latin declined, so did the club, and it died, leaving a treasury of approximately \$100. The money was divided between the AFS (American Field Service) to be used in the foreign student program and a fund which was being raised at the time to buy new scoreboards for the gymnasium.

FHA

Names of the courses, the contents taught and the names used for the club dedicated to subjects having to do with things done in the home have changed through the years.

Domestic science, home economics and homemaking were the general names with the courses bearing names such as Bachelor Living and Advanced Sewing.

The club for girls interested in the subject began in the 1930's under the name H-2-B, Homemakers To Be. In 1948, it affiliated with the national group called Future Homemakers of America and went by the name FHA. In 1977 the group dropped its national affiliation, changed its name to Friendly Homemakers of America and continued to be called FHA.

The file of Duchesses gives an idea of the activities of the members. In 1945, they sponsored a Stunt Night which was the forerunner of the annual Skit Night at Homecoming. They also raised money to furnish a girls' lounge in the high school, then located at 712 Union



LATIN CLUB MEMBERS at their annual Roman banquet in 1961.

Street.

Since then, club members have had teas and banquets for their mothers, Daddy-date Night for their fathers, all-school Christmas programs with "vittles and fun" in the high school building on Union Street, teas for the faculty with quantities of cookies they made, coffee times for parents attending Parent-Teacher conferences, and parties for pre-schoolers.

They have entertained themselves with Halloween, Christmas, pizza, spaghetti, skiing and slumber parties and powder-puff football and have had joint

meetings and parties with the FFA (Future Farmers of America) and other FHA chapters.

In 1964, they began selling magazines to raise money for their projects, such as buying a sign to put in front of the building on East University street, planting shrubs around the sign and buying furniture and equipment for the home-making department. Their service projects have included donations to Pep Club, AFS (American Field Service), the Junior Class, Christian Opportunity Center and the Day Care Center.



FHA OFFICERS wore white dresses and red roses when they were installed in 1964.

During the 1968-69 school year, Mary Benes served as state president of the FHA. Other students who were state FHA officers at various times were Judy Steenhoek, Rhonda Ruffridge and Linda Gezel.

Main projects during the 1978-79 school year were an all-night sew-a-thon, dinner at Charlie's Showplace in Des Moines and a Mother-Daughter fashion show.

Letter/Varsity Club

Pella High athletes began wearing sweaters with a "P" on them in the early 1900's as recognition of their prowess as basketball or baseball players. Other sports gradually were added to the list of activities that warranted the honor of wearing a letter-sweater. In 1960 the sweaters were dropped in favor of letter jackets, in conformance to a nation-wide trend.

In the 1920's, there was no formal club, but the letter-

sweater wearers felt close to each other and did many things together in addition to sports.

In the 1930's, the boys who had earned letters organized a club which was a combination social and service club. It has always been a boys' club, but in the early 50's, when the school had girls' basketball for a few years, the girls organized their own letter club. When basketball for girls was dropped, it was impossible for them to become eligible for such a group, so it died.

In 1970, when several girls' sports were added to the extracurricular activities, the girls organized a Varsity Club, and the boys stuck to the name Letter Club. In 1980, there are plans to combine the two organizations.

From the 1930's to the 1970's, Letter Club members had a big initiation for the new members; this was dropped in favor of suppers or school assemblies where the athletes received their letters.

In 1950 and 1951, the Letter Club and faculty men played a baseball game.

Until about 1970 the social aspect of the club was important; members had hayrack rides, spring parties with dates, swimming parties and picnics at Lake Keomah east of Oskaloosa. The annual Letter Club Penny Carnival to raise money to buy things needed by the athletic department was an important event. A student could go to that event without a date, but most of the people attending it were couples. A few days before the carnival, a girl chased the boy she wanted to take and put a "patch" on him bearing her name. The "patch" was attached under strict rules which included the hours when patches could be put on, the provision that no patching could be done during a class, and the rule that no boy could go out one of the school windows to escape a girl who was chasing him. The whole thing was dropped in the early 1970's.

A money-raising project of the boys' Letter Club since the 1950's is selling Homecoming pins. The girls joined this project in the late 70's.

The Letter Club had floats in the annual Homecoming parade until it was dropped. Until Skit Night entrants were limited to the four classes, they always prepared a rousing skit for that program.

National Honor Society

This account of the Honor Society was written from the secretary's book which contains records of the group from its first meeting. ELH

Pella chapter of the National Honor Society was organized during the 1944-1945 school year and received chapter number 3007 from the national group in May.

The original constitution



GIRLS' LETTER CLUB in 1953. There were few sports for girls, so few girls were eligible for the group.

called for bi-weekly meetings at 8:30 a.m. in Room 303 of the high school building on Union Street. Miss Henrietta Ver Heul was sponsor. Dues were 10 cents a year.

Initiation of new members was done at an all-school assembly in the auditorium with the names of initiates kept a secret until they were read to the student body just before the candle-lighting ceremony.

The secretary's book for the Honor Society gives a detailed description of the initiation ceremony in the auditorium on Nov. 18, 1948, which was typical of the method of inducting members for approximately 20 years.

In the center of the stage near the front was a table draped in white. On the table were five large candles, the central candle representing the Honor Society, the other four candles representing the cardinal virtues for which the society stands. These virtues are leadership, character, scholarship and service. On a table at the right stood the candles which were to be lit by the new members.

Superintendent C. C. Buerkens installed the new officers who lit the symbolic candles, then the new president (Peggy Leu) gave an inaugural address. Miss Jane Gosselink, principal, gave a short talk, and Fred Whalley, band director, sang a solo.

Miss Ver Heul called the new members to the platform to receive their certificates of membership and a candle to be lit from the large central candle. The new members, holding their candles in their right hands, then formed a semi-circle in front of the old members and repeated the pledge. The

meeting was closed by a short prayer by the sponsor.

Requirements for membership have varied slightly during the life of the National Honor Society, but have always put a strong emphasis on scholarship.

In 1966, a policy was adopted which permitted five percent of the sophomores, 10 percent of the juniors and 15 percent of the seniors to belong to the group. This means that a maximum of five percent of a class may be initiated each year.

In 1969, the chapter dropped its custom of having a public initiation and had a dinner for members, initiates and their parents. In 1970, Pella Rollscreen Company began sponsoring the annual dinner.

During its early years, National Honor Society, along with all of the other organizations in the school, presented one of the skits at the Skit Night which was a part of Homecoming festivities, meaning that from 12 to 14 skits were presented during the evening.

For several years, the chapter sponsored a special weekend for foreign students in the area, an event which was taken over by the PHS chapter of AFS (American Field Service) in 1971.

In October, 1976, Dean M. L. Hunt of University of Iowa, Iowa City, was the banquet speaker, presenting a plaque to Pella High School from the University of Iowa chapter of Phi Beta Kappa in recognition of "The Class AA High School whose graduates rank highest in the first year scholarship at the University of Iowa."

Aims of the organization, according to the constitution, are:

to create enthusiasm for scholarship, to stimulate a desire to render service; to promote worthy leadership, to encourage the development of character in pupils of Pella High School.

Pep Club and Cheerleaders

Bier-a-boer-a bop,
Pella boven op.
Al zyn ze nog zoo gek
Al zeggen ze nog verreck!
Pella boven op!

That was the Dutch yell which high school students in the 1920's were using at pep rallies and games. There was no formal pep club, and there were no cheerleaders, but almost all of the students put on the school colors or their class colors and sat together to cheer at the games. In the 1920's and early 30's, girls wore their black gym bloomers to games with blouses in their class color.

The first cheerleaders were chosen in the late 1920's. At first, there were only two; by 1975, there were approximately 35 with squads for all of the major sports for varsity, junior varsity and freshmen. Mascots were added in 1967.

Pep Club was organized in 1933. As with all organizations in the high school, its level of activity has varied during the 46 years of its life. Sometimes, the girls bought matching outfits, sometimes they all bought green wool and made matching outfits; in 1939, they wore anything they wished plus green and white caps; some years they decided not to have uniforms.

Until the athletic conference banned decorating the gym, one of their biggest jobs was getting the gym ready for tournaments. They have organized Homecoming since its beginning, which used to include planning a parade.

Pep assemblies, planned by cheerleaders or Pep Club, used to be held for every game. Some years, Pep Club has organized special activities such as a Spirit Week or has decorated the lockers of athletes on game days.

Pella High's first yearbook, printed in 1934, has a page of



PEP CLUB AND CHEERLEADERS in 1951.

six school yells. One is still used:

Yea, Green, Yea White!
Yea, Pella, Fight, Fight, Fight!

An example of a 1934 yell which is no longer used:

Strawberry shortcake,
Gooseberry pie,
V-I-C-T-O-R-Y!
Are we it? Well I guess.
Pella High School, Yes, Yes,
Yes!

Thespians

Drama Club, forerunner of Troupe 123 of the National Thespians Organization, was formed in 1948 with "Why the Chimes Rang" as their first production.

The organization has been the backbone of speech activities at PHS, encouraging debate, participation in speech contests and plays. Using a point system that recognizes participation on stage and also behind the scenes, the organization has an initiation of new members each spring and selects a Thespian of the Year for recognition at the annual Fine Arts Awards Night.

Art Club

Art Club was organized in 1968. Its members have visited museums, art galleries and shops in Des Moines, Kansas City, Iowa City and Pella. Parties, concerts and visits to artist's homes and workshops have been arranged by the members.

French Club

French Club was organized in 1962. Activities have included parties, visits to French restaurants, seeing French movies, pot-luck dinners and getting together to cook typical French foods.

Tulpen-ettes

Girls marching together have had a variety of names since the first group was organized in 1967. Performing with the band or with recorded music, they have been called Tulpen-ettes, Drill Team, Band-aides and flag girls. In the 1950's, the group was made up of Pep Club members and was called Pep Club Drill Team.

Hi-Y and Hi-Tri

Two organizations with a religious orientation which existed at various times from the early 1920's until the mid 1940's were Hi-Y for high school boys and Hi-Tri for the girls. The organizations met at the high school where they had programs consisting of prayer, scriptures, hymns and talks. They had a faculty sponsor and met in the school building but were not an official part of school activities.

A 1922 newspaper clipping tells of Hi-Tri members selling candy to help the school's athletic fund.

Homerooms

In the 1930's and 1940's, the high school student body was divided into homerooms. Most of the extra-curricular activity of the school centered around these groups. The Student Council consisted of representatives elected by each homeroom, and the homerooms elected officers. Intramural sports contests were scheduled by homerooms. Usually, each homeroom had several parties during the school year. Skating parties, hayrack rides and picnics were the main social activities. When Homecoming started, most of the homerooms entered a float in the parade.

Pelladium

Probably the first school newspaper in Pella was a page which appeared regularly in the **Pella Chronicle** beginning in the fall of 1936 under the name **Public School Chronicle**. It contained news items about the grade schools as well as the high school. There was no junior high then. The issues during that school year were numbered Volume I.

By 1941, the paper was called **Pella High Spirit**, but it still used the first numbering system and was marked Volume V. In 1944, the name **Pelladium** was adopted, and the paper began with Issue 1, Vol. I. The first issues were mimeographed, later it was included in the **Chronicle**.

The content of the school newspaper has been varied. For many years, it included short items, similar to the "personals" on what was called the Society Page of the contemporary newspapers. They were about family outings, trips to Des Moines or out-of-town visitors. Most of the time, the school newspaper focused on news of school activities, club reports and feature stories about students.

Pelladium staff members have written many editorials, some about their school, others about city, state, national and international problems. The paper has carried fiction and poetry. There have been many cartoons and pictures. In the days when a school gossip column was fashionable, **Pelladium** had such a feature.

Several times from 1958 to 1962, the **Pelladium** staff put out special editions about Homecoming or graduation or Christmas. These were mimeographed.

Generally, the staff of the newspaper was not interested in entering contests. However, in 1960 and again in 1961, the **Pelladium** entered a contest for observance of National Newspaper Week, and both years they earned a certificate of distinguished achievement. In 1973 the **Pelladium** entered the Iowa Press Association school newspaper contest and won first place for school pages in weekly newspapers. In 1973, two stories written by **Pelladium** reporters were entered in the national Quill and Scroll contest and won first place.

In 1972, the **Pelladium** staff was featured in a national

magazine for high school journalists. There was a picture of **Pelladium** reporters with Iowa Governor Robert Ray and a story telling how they used their Iowa High School Press Association membership cards and gained an interview with the Governor during the annual trip of PHS seniors to the capital.

The years that the school had a journalism class, the journalism teacher was faculty advisor for the paper. Other years, an English teacher had the responsibility. Probably Emma Lou Heusinkveld has been school paper advisor longer than anyone else. She was **Pelladium** advisor from 1964 to 1980 except for one year.

AFS

The Pella Chapter of AFS (American Field Service) was organized in 1963. Since that time, several Pella students have gone to foreign countries on the program and the school has had an AFS student every year.

The club sponsors parties and a Foreign Student weekend

each year with foreign students attending schools in other Iowa towns invited as guests. Members take a special interest in their AFS student but also are helpful to other foreign students in the school, such as Rotary Exchange students.

The list of AFS students who have attended PHS since the first one in 1964 is on page 64.

Future Farmers

One of the first organizations for Pella High School boys was the Garden City Chapter of Future Farmers of America, chartered on October 13, 1936. Later the chapter name was changed from Garden City to Pella.

First officers were Lester Vander Linden, president; Glenn Van Zee, vice president; Arthur Tysseling, secretary, and Walter Roorda, treasurer. Other charter members were Mark De Prenger, Hugh Dunn, Ira Veltdhuizen, Jim Huyser, Gerald Van Zante, Elmer Ver Meer, Arthur Van Zee, Ray Tysseling, Cal Den Hartog and Willis Dieleman.

First instructor of vocational



PELLADIUM STAFF in 1961 was bigger than in later years when sports activities, open campus and the large number of students with after-school jobs cut membership.

agriculture and advisor for the charter members of FFA was M. M. Dockendorff.

In the 1970's, membership in FFA was opened to girls.

FFA activities connected with farming have included judging contests, participation in county and state fairs and the National Dairy Congress at Waterloo, field trips and farming the extra land around the high school building on East University before the football and track complex and the Middle School were built.

Money-raising projects have varied. Members have tested seeds for farmers, run a food stand at Tulip Time, sold candy and ice cream during lunch hour, caught and sold pigeons, mixed minerals for farmers, operated a hat and coat check stand for basketball games, sponsored donkey basketball games, sold garden seeds and sold themselves at auction to act as slave for a day.

In the late 1960's, the chapter began selling oranges and later added grapefruit, apples, cheese and popcorn to this project.

Social activities have been just as varied — watermelon feeds, hayrack rides, bowling, basketball, skating, swimming, skiing and parties with the FHA. In 1944, the chapter sponsored the first all-school skating party in the Central College gym — now the Drama Workshop.

In the spring of 1951, the boys arranged their first Parent-Son Banquet, later changed to Parent-Member banquet when girls joined the organization. Teachers and board members and their spouses are invited to this event, cooked in the school kitchen by the hot lunch staff and served by volunteers from the PHS student body.

The FFA chapter regularly sends a delegation to the annual National FFA convention in Kansas City.

Their service projects often over-lapped their learning pro-

jects and their money-making endeavors, such as the project of testing seeds for farmers in 1946 and 1947. One year, they gave money to send crippled children to Camp Sunnyside; several times they ushered at the Iowa State Fair.

In the spring of 1960, they elected a sweetheart for the first time and had her ride on their float in the Tulip Time parade. In the mid 1970's, they added two attendants, elected by the members from among the farm girls attending PHS.

Advisors, in the order they served, were Dockendorff, Kenneth Decker, Marion Aalbers, William Stewart, Clarence Ziegler, Cecil Vines, James Lorigan, Keith Hopp, Kenneth Peterson, Randy Rumery and Jerry Krug.

The American Farmer Degree is the highest degree which can be awarded to an individual member by the National Association of the Future Farmers of America. Approximately 25 members out of 10,000 receive this award in Iowa each year.

Two Pella FFA members have received the award. They were Loren Kuiper in 1969 and Glenn Van Wyk in 1977.

Quill and Scroll

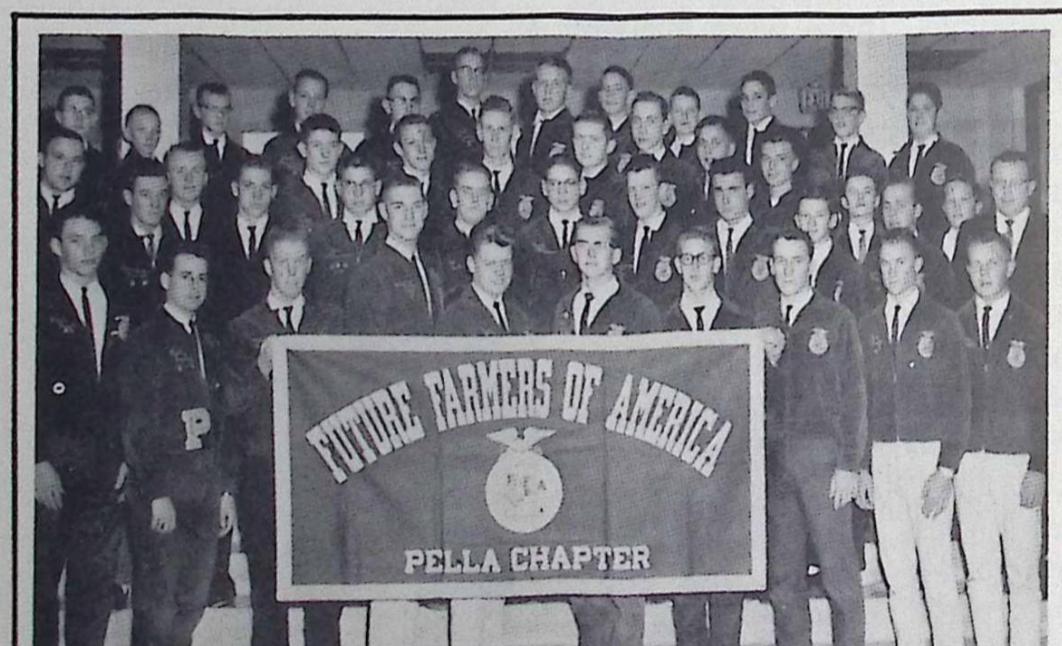
Charter for the PHS chapter of Quill and Scroll, an international organization for high school journalists, was granted in 1940. The group was called the Jack Shelly Chapter in honor of a popular newsman on Radio Station WHO.

Among honors won by the group were an award for a series of stories about National Newspaper Week in 1960, a picture and story in a national journalism magazine in 1972 about an interview with Governor Robert Ray by Quill and Scroll members, and special Quill and Scroll awards for news stories in 1973.

In 1961, the chapter published a booklet called "The Scribe" which contained poetry, essays and short stories written by PHS students.

A constitution approved in 1967 called for monthly meetings of the group, but the number of meetings gradually decreased, and by 1979 it had become customary to have one meeting a year, a pot-luck dinner and initiation for new members.

When the organization began, juniors and seniors were



FUTURE FARMERS OF AMERICA

FUTURE FARMERS of 1964 (all boys) were wearing the same style and color of cordoroy jackets that boy and girl FFA members wear in 1980.

eligible if they were in the top third of their class scholastically and had worked two years on PHS publications. Later, the sophomores were allowed to join.

Spanish Club

Spanish Club was organized in 1975 after Spanish was added to the high school curriculum; it died when Spanish was dropped. The club members had parties where they learned something of the culture and the foods of Spanish-speaking nations.

Homecoming

Based on information in PHS yearbooks. ELH

Pella High School had its first Homecoming in October, 1944. The celebration included a bonfire, a parade led by the school band, a snake dance of students and faculty from the bonfire site to the high school on Union Street for the coronation, and a program which featured a talk by Arie Schilder, identified in the yearbook as "one of Pella High's most loyal supporters." On Friday, there was a football game followed by a party at the Legion Hall.

The first queen was Verla Vander Streek; her attendants were Ruth Vogelaar and Uella Dingeman. The football team won its first Homecoming game, defeating Osceola 13 to 6.

Homecoming has been held every year since then, with the only constant ingredients of the event being the election of a queen and a football game. Until people started worrying about air pollution, a bonfire was a part of the big weekend. Until the 1950's, Homecoming includ-



FIRST HOMECOMING QUEEN, was Verla Vander Streek in 1944. Her attendants were Ruth Vogelaar and Uella Dingeman.

ed a parade, sometimes on Friday and sometimes on Saturday. Each homeroom and many of the school organizations entered a float, competing for prizes. The football team was an important part of the parade, sometimes riding on a fire engine with bells ringing and siren wailing, other times riding on a float or in the backseats of all of the convertibles in town.

In 1945, the H2B Club (Homemakers-To-Be) organized Stunt Night the evening before Homecoming. The yearbook reported, "This event shows promise of becoming an annual affair." The prediction was right; "Stunt Night" became "Skit Night" and continues to be a part of the Homecoming tradition, sponsored at different times by National Honor Society, Student Council and Pep

Club. In the fifties and sixties when club activity was at its height, every club in the high school entered a skit.

The pre-game activities have included decorating the school, selling Homecoming pins, white-washing the town, and dressing up for special days. There have been pep assemblies, snake dances, pep rallies around a bonfire and soup suppers.

The after-game activities have varied during the 36 years of Homecoming festivities. They have included folk games, dances, all-school parties and programs. The setting has been the Legion Hall the VFW Hall, the gym or the auditorium of the school on Union Street and the student lounge of the present high school.

Rules for nominating candidates and voting for the queen have changed several times. Before the rule was made that the queen must be a senior, a freshman and two juniors were selected. The 1956 Duchess is the first one that has a picture of the newly-crowned queen reading a scroll which proclaimed Homecoming. Sometimes the queen was told before the coronation that she had been selected; other times those in charge have waited until the girls were on the stage to make the announcement. The crowning has been done by the superintendent, by the football coach and by the captain of the football team.

During the 1950-51 school year, Shirley Rook was selected as a basketball queen, and the following year Ruth Pippel was chosen. But those celebrations did not grow and develop into school traditions in the way that the annual fall celebration did.

Homecoming Queens at PHS

- 1944 - Verla Vander Streek
- 1945 - Ruth Vogelaar
- 1946 - Uella Dingeman
- 1947 - Marcie Valster
- 1948 - Beulah De Heer
- 1949 - Marlene Sels
- 1950 - Roberta Zeigler
- 1951 - Mary Van Vliet
- 1952 - Martha Van Ekeren (This was the first year that there were four attendants; earlier queens had two attendants.)
- 1953 - Ruth Pippel
- 1954 - Ruth DeZwarte
- 1955 - Fern Uitermarkt
- 1956 - Lois Nieuwsma
- 1957 - Carolyn Van Dusseldorp
- 1958 - Joan Nollen
- 1959 - Glenda Steenhoek
- 1960 - Twylah Monster
- 1961 - Melba Van Hemert
- 1962 - Beverly De Cook
- 1963 - Louise Van Zante
- 1964 - Lynn Van Tuyl
- 1965 - Faye Van Wyk
- 1966 - Nanci Paris
- 1967 - Rhonda Ruffridge
- 1968 - Andrea Ver Meer
- 1969 - Laurel Graham
- 1970 - Tricia Steward
- 1971 - Cheryl Klein
- 1972 - Cheri Van Dyk
- 1973 - Karla DeCook
- 1974 - Lynn Hinga
- 1975 - Ann Hinga
- 1976 - Donna Vander Waal
- 1977 - Carol Vander Leest
- 1978 - Becky Rietveld
- 1979 - Andrea Busker



THE JUNIORS stitched up a big flag each year which they defended for two years in a series of skirmishes between the juniors and the seniors. Anyone who was at PHS from World War I to the late 1920's remembers the colors of his class. The Class of 1923 had a black flag with gold numerals. In the picture are members of the Class of 1924 who captured the flag from the seniors when they were juniors.

Class Fights

Based on board minutes and reminiscences by alumni of PHS. ELH

During the first half century of the existence of the Pella schools, there was more class spirit than school spirit. Children throughout the school system were proud of their grade and anxious to do everything better than the children in the other grades, whether it was a spelling match, a sports contest, putting on a program, or being named to the honor roll.

When they got to high school, each class selected mottos, flowers and colors for their class which they used throughout their four years in high school. If there was a party, the class colors were used for decorations. At the receptions and banquets which were common each spring, the class colors and flowers were used. On graduation night, the junior class decorated the stage in the seniors' colors. Most of the

members of each class bought a class sweater which they wore frequently. The school colors, green and white, apparently were selected about the time of World War I, but the students were more apt to use their class colors.

The classes had frequent parties. Sometimes, they skated in Dominie Scholte's old church on West First Street, which had become a community building, or in the Central College gym. In the spring, they had class picnics, usually in a farm grove or along the Des Moines River. Sometimes, they had parties at the home of a student or a faculty member.

The strong feeling of class loyalty gradually developed into class fights. About 1910, members of the junior and senior classes made large flags in their class colors. Each class wanted to steal the flag of the other class and the two groups began a custom which later presented problems.

Later classes of juniors and seniors followed the lead, made flags, and flew them from various points around town. Each class wanted its flag to be higher than the banner of the other class. They put their flags on church steeples, the elevator, telephone poles and flag poles around the town with members of each class struggling to steal the other's flag.

Without any official approval, the students gradually worked out rules for the annual fight. Each class had to fly its flag for a 24-hour period during the spring to give their opponents a chance to steal it; the fight ended on Senior Class Day. The class members took turns being in charge of the flag. Sometimes, they would take it to school and run through the halls with it, tempting the other class to "flagnap" it. It was mostly a boys' activity, but when the flag was flying, the girls usually took food to the boys, and there would be an informal picnic at

the site.

What started as fun got out of hand. Some students were injured in trying to get their flag to a high place. The Class of 1923 used a rifle to try to shoot down the flag of the Class of 1924. No one was hurt in that episode, although the flag of the Class of 1924, which is still in existence, has bullet holes in it. One year, a city flag pole was cut down by a group trying to steal the flag that was flying from it. This disturbed the people who were intending to use that flagpole in Memorial Day observances.

On May 29, 1924, a special board meeting was called to discuss the junior-senior fight over possession of flags. The board announced that if any more fights developed, they would refuse to grant diplomas to anyone in either class. The Class of 1925 did not get involved in a flag fight after that.

The type of thinking which caused the flag fights was transferred to painting and kidnapping. Until the mid-1930's, the competition between the juniors and seniors presented problems all over Pella. Sometimes, a group of students from one of the classes kidnapped a member of the other class, blindfolded him, drove him out into the country and dumped him. Many people were frightened or inconvenienced by these escapades, but no one was ever injured. However, student kidnappings were common throughout the United States at that time, and stories in the newspapers of injuries and deaths in other parts of the country caused concern that similar things would happen in Pella.

A couple of years after the flag fights ended, a group of seniors went to the homes of juniors and painted the senior class year on the sidewalks. The juniors reciprocated by painting their numerals in front of the seniors' homes. As the years

went by, the site of the painting changed from sidewalks to houses and stores. Members of each class usually chose one night during the spring when they stayed up all night painting their class numerals around the town. Usually these were rough scrawls, but the Class of 1928 made stencils which resulted in a neater job, though still not appreciated by people whose property was painted.

The painting finally came to a stop in the mid 1930's when the school board promised the juniors and seniors they could have a skip day in the spring if there was no painting. Seniors at PHS still benefit from this deal, being dismissed from classes a few days earlier than other students each spring.

School During the War Years

Based on information in a scrapbook kept by Bonnie Buerkens whose high school years coincided with World WAR II — 1941 to 1945. ELH

A phrase, "the war effort," permeated life in the United States from December 7, 1941 until the atomic bomb was dropped on Japan in August of 1945. The nation's all-out war effort affected more than the men (and a few women) who were in the Army, Navy, Air Force, Coast Guard and Marine Corps — a group of organizations which later became "The Armed Forces." School life was different in the war years than during times of peace.

School children helped to collect scrap metal to be melted down for re-use as weapons. Classes and high school dormitories had contests to see which one could buy the most war bonds and stamps. Children helped with victory gardens, were involved in a national



A WORLD WAR stopped some things, but not the class plays. In October, 1943, the juniors staged "No Women Allowed", a comedy set in Canada. In choosing a play to produce during the war years, the director had to consider stage properties and costumes needed since many materials were not available for civilian use. Profits from the play were used to help pay for the annual junior-senior banquet the next spring.

physical fitness campaign and gathered paper for scrap paper drives. In 1942, the high school had a hobby show with the admission money used to buy a war bond.

When the nation set up a rationing program for sugar, meat, canned goods, gasoline and tires, Pella High School at 712 Union Street was the place where all of the citizens of the area went to sign up for their books of ration stamps. Students from the secretarial training class helped do the paper work.

At times during the war years, people were concerned about the threat of bombs dropped by planes from foreign nations. Community officials enforced "brownouts" when all lights in town were dimmed or "blackouts" when street lights were turned off and all citizens were asked to install dark shades on their windows. It was during one such period that a story in the high school paper reported that a school party had ended early so that everyone could get home before the

blackout began at 10:00 p.m.

C.C. Buerkens, superintendent, started writing letters to PHS students and recent grads who were in the Armed Forces. The project grew until he was sending monthly mimeographed letters to almost 50 former PHS students. They were filled with Pella news and reports of Pella residents in army camps and on ships. These letters were responsible for several Pella boys learning that they were stationed near a classmate and arranging a reunion half-way around the world.

In 1942 and 1943, a series of films about the war was shown at the high school to students and interested people of the community. The films explained how the individual citizen could help the nation fight the war, and gave information about the progress of the war, ration coupons and victory gardens.

Army and Navy recruiters visited the high school regularly, and each year a special meeting was held for the senior boys to tell them what choices they had about fulfilling their

required military service. Several boys and a few teachers (including a woman) left school to join the Armed Forces, either as volunteers or as draftees.

In the fall of 1942, the seniors voted to have a yearbook, the second one in the history of the school. They named it "P-43," thinking of the Air Force pursuit plane called P-43, which was in the news frequently, as well as their graduation year, '43.

P-43 was dedicated to the classmates who had left school to join the armed forces. The price charged for the book was high enough to enable the staff to send free copies to approximately 40 servicemen. In 1945, the seniors called their yearbook **Pellascope** and dedicated it to four men from Pella High School who died during World War II. The dedication for the first **Duchess**, published in 1946 listed five men who died in the war in the dedication.

To celebrate the annual Armistice Day marking the end of World War I, all 500 of the Pella public school children were dismissed early on November 11, 1942 to participate in a parade with the theme, "Schools at War." Led by the high school band, they marched around Central Park with marching groups of children showing their efforts to help the nation's war effort. War stamps and bonds, conservation of scarce items, physical fitness, the drive to collect scrap metal and waste paper, and the children's dedication to learning more about the history of their country were featured in the parade. The parade ended with all of the children and their teachers standing on the west side of the square to say the pledge of allegiance to the flag together.

It was a scene reminiscent of the time in 1847 when several hundred emigrants from Holland stood in the square and became citizens of the United States in a special ceremony.

Hot Lunch Program

Based on information from Margaret Klyn and Carolyn Klein. ELH

In 1957 the Pella school board decided to take advantage of government regulations to provide hot lunches for some of the children in the schools. The new Webster School had space for a kitchen adjoining its multi-purpose room, so they ordered pots and pans, trays, a couple of big tanks for washing dishes and some other kitchen equipment and hired Margaret Ver Ploeg Gosselink to be in charge.

Margaret Klyn had a great deal of experience in quantity cookery as a volunteer at Second Reformed Church (where most of the big dinners of the community were served) and agreed to help for six weeks on the new program. She helped in planning the menus, ordering food and organizing work schedules, and went to school each noon hour to help serve the lunches. "I was going to help for just six weeks, but I fell in love with the program and went every single day all year," she recalled.

At first, the program was restricted to children who lived at least 10 blocks from school or who got special permission to eat at school because their parents were not at home during the noon hour. On the first day, for a charge of 30 cents, 146 students ate.

The children at Webster School just walked down the hall to the multi-purpose room; the high school students ran down the alley from their building on Union Street, and the children at Lincoln School

rode a school bus to Webster for lunch.

A few years after the program started, Mrs. Klyn asked the board to drop its rules limiting participation in the program. "They thought we couldn't feed all of those kids from that little Webster kitchen, but we did," she said.

Hours of the cooks at first were from about 7:30 a.m. until about 1 p.m. When the U.S. government started furnishing flour to the school for the hot lunch program in the 1960's, the cooks increased the amount of baking that they did and began going to the kitchen at the new high school at 5:30 a.m. to bake such things as cinnamon rolls and hamburger buns.

Their early start made the superintendent adopt the policy of telephoning the cooks first to tell them if classes were cancelled because of snow and ice. One morning, Mrs. Klyn and one of her assistants, Esther De Goey, left their homes before the cancellation call came and sat in a car, stranded in a blizzard near the high school until someone on a snowplow rescued them.

Hamburgers are the all-time favorite of the students. Other favorites through the years have been lasagna, pizza, chili and brownies.

The menus are based on regulations made by the U.S. government and on the supply of commodities available to schools as government agricultural surpluses. The surpluses have varied from year to year but included rice, chickens, turkeys, butter, margarine, cheese, flour, gallon cans of plums, weiners, peanut butter, peanut oil, shortening and oatmeal. Sometimes fresh apples and pears were included. The school lunch program can have these foods by paying storage and freight costs. Sometimes the school lunch program has helped students with special diets for ulcers,

diabetes or allergies.

In 1977, the high school added a chef's salad to the program which the students could order instead of the regular menu. The number ordering this variation from the regular hot lunch has ranged from 40 on a cold snowy day to about 150 on a warm spring day.

The first year that the present high school was used, 1962-63, the traditional junior-senior banquet was held in the gymnasium with the food cooked in the kitchen. Since then, the hot lunch cooks have helped with many special events — the annual Parent-Member banquet of the FFA (first called the Parent-Son Banquet), the National Honor Society dinners, several junior-senior banquets, the senior dinners which were held for a few years in the late 1960's, and REA suppers.

Mrs. Fleur Geurts took over as lunch program manager for one year, then Mrs. Klyn became manager of the program, a position which she held until her retirement in 1977. Mrs. Carolyn Klein is now manager of the program, which has 11 full-time employees and four part-time workers.

Places for preparation of the food have varied. When the present high school building was opened in the fall of 1962, Leighton was added to the hot lunch program, using food cooked at the high school, and the high school cooks also prepared food for the children at Lincoln School. The Junior High students ran down the alley to join the Webster pupils, and a separate lunch program was set up at Otley. For a few years, food for Lincoln School children was prepared in the Lincoln School kitchen. Now, food for all of the Pella Community School pupils except those at Otley is prepared in the high school kitchen and taken to each school in special containers in school vans.

Memorial Service Award

In 1944, members of the graduating class announced a new award to be called the Service Memorial Award which was to be awarded to a senior boy in memory of the graduates of Pella High School who "sacrificed their lives for their country." The award was given each year to "the athlete who has contributed the most toward the good name of Pella High School." The award was made on the basis of teamwork, scholarship, training, leadership, character, and athletic accomplishment. The award was discontinued in 1973 when the increasing number of athletics in the program and the increasing number of students participating made it difficult to decide which individual boy deserved the honor.

Those who received the award were:

- 1945 Keith Lautenbach
- 1946 Ray Rouw
- 1947 John Sheppard
- 1948 Harry Koopmans
- 1949 Andy Van Berkum
- 1950 Dale Vos
- 1951 Wendell Ver Ploeg
- 1952 Leo Van Vark
- 1953 Robert Borgman
- 1954 Cleo Ver Hoef
- 1955 Alvin Hiemstra
- 1956 Robert Buyert
- 1957 Tom Boat
- 1958 Gary Wallace
- 1959 Robert Slykhuis
- 1960 Charles Slykhuis
- 1961 Jerry Gosselink
- 1962 Jerry Slykhuis
- 1963 Roger Slykhuis
- 1964 Ken Nollen
- 1965 Bill Van Zante
- 1966 Roger Hoekstra
- 1967 Jim Heerema
- 1968 Dave Bensink
- 1969 Don Vande Noord
- 1970 Mark Van Hemert
- 1971 Homer Showman
- 1972 Kyle Steenhoek



BUILDINGS STILL ON THE EAST SIDE OF THE SQUARE were the background as high school girls of the 1920's walked along Pella's dirt street carrying red, white and blue umbrellas in the annual Memorial Day parade. These parades ended in the mid 1930's.

When It's Time to Celebrate

Public events with children participating or providing part of the audience have been a part of Pella activities since little children born in Holland stood in Central Park and watched a group of several hundred men take an oath of allegiance to the United States in September, 1847.

School children were in the impromptu parade which celebrated the end of the Civil War in April, 1865.

Children participated in the community's celebration of the 25th anniversary of the arrival of the first Dutch settlers on August 28, 1872. In spite of a heavy rainfall, "a vast throng filled the large audience room of the new First Reformed Church ... and listened to eloquent addresses" by four ministers. Prof. John S. Nollen's topic was "Rise and Progress of Our Educational Facilities."

This was followed by a community pot-luck dinner where "four large tables fairly groaned under their load of good things to eat and drink." The day ended with a gathering in the Scholte grove north of his

home for music and more speeches in both English and Dutch.

Pella school students had a part in the semi-centennial celebration the first three days of September, 1897. Some of them were in Henry Cox's band of 44 pieces which led "the grand procession which formed at the east square (where the Pella Manor is now) and paraded through the principal streets."

Seventy teen-age girls, each dressed in white, wearing red and blue sashes and each carrying a red, white and blue umbrella, marched in the parade.

This unit of the parade was such a big hit that it became a part of the Decoration Day parade for many years, even after the name of the holiday had been changed to "Memorial Day." By the time of World War I, children of the elementary schools walked in the parade carrying tiny flags, junior high or high school girls carried the red, white and blue umbrellas, and high school boys could get out of one of their semester tests if they would agree to carry one of the larger flags.

A group of high school girls was selected each year to lead the parade, carrying a flag ap-

proximately 12 by 15 feet in size. Leonora Gaass Hettinga, who was selected "because I was the tallest" to be in the lead in the parade in about 1930, described the procedure this way: "We carried it flat with four girls on each side, three in the front and three in the back."

That year, the entire parade went off its usual route to march past the home of Henry Van Maren who was Pella's only living Civil War veteran.

Several women who participated in those annual parades when they were little girls still remember the rainy Memorial Days when their new white dresses became red, white and blue because umbrellas and sashes faded in the rain.

After World War I, children began the day by picking flowers from their yards or the yards of neighbors and taking them to the Legion Hall where Legion and Auxiliary members made flower arrangements and took them to the graves of veterans. The parade always began at Webster School and ended at Oakwood Cemetery or Central Park.

For several years it was customary for the PHS seniors to march in the Memorial Day Parade, wearing caps and gowns.

In 1922, when Pella celebrated its 75th anniversary on September 5, 6 and 7, school children took part. A group called "The Junior Band," made up of students from the schools of Pella, joined the city band in the parade. A children's chorus sang every day of the celebration with "The Iowa Corn Song" their most popular number.

There were reminiscences in both English and Dutch from some of the original group of settlers, political addresses and a pageant including children at the corner of East First and University Streets, "on the edge of town." School kids participated in sack races, greased

pole climb, boys' races and girls' races and watched the fat man's race and the water fight between fire departments from towns of the area.

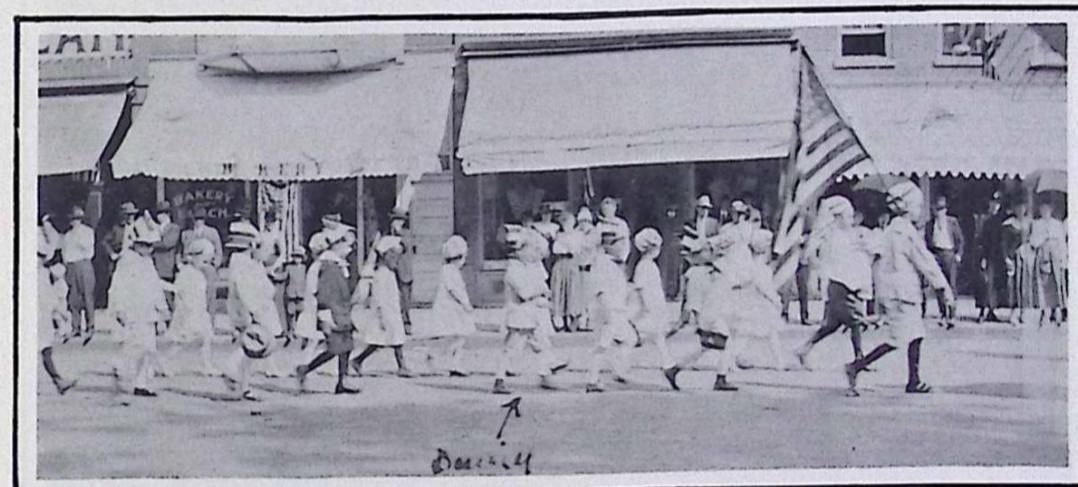
The school kids of that day, now grayheaded, still chuckle as they recall that celebration — balloon ascensions each day, parachute jumps, trained dog acts, tight-rope walkers, ballgames, jugglers and trapeze acts plus a ferris wheel, a merry-go-round and miniature cars to ride in.

A train-load of people from the "settlement" in Sioux County and "great crowds" from neighboring towns all joined the people of Pella in celebrating.

In 1936, when Pella had its first Tulip Time, Pella school students were an important part of the event. They had parts in the operetta, "Tulip Time" directed by Miss Anne Tysseling, marched in the parade and rode on floats.

When Dutch dancing became a part of the celebration, the children learned the steps and the songs in their physical education classes. For several years in the 1950's, junior high students carried large flags of the countries in the United Nations for the parade. High school students have helped put up and take down the bleachers for the parade, built floats, served as guides, helped with church dinners, ridden on floats, and served as Tulip Time queens and attendants. In 1942 Jeanne Van Gorkum was the first high school girl to be selected as queen.

When the community marked its centennial year in 1947 with a pageant at Tulip Time, junior and senior high school students and elementary school children enthusiastically took part. They played the role of whooping Indians, rode on real covered wagons and had other parts in



A SPECIAL PARADE on September 17, 1917 honored the young men of Pella who had joined the army and gone to France to fight in The World War. As usual, when anyone was having a parade, the school children were invited to participate.



THE DUCHESSES were organized at PHS to sing and dance at Tulip Time in the 1960's. Since then, they have represented Pella at many celebrations around the state.

the huge pageant at Swimming Pool Park with the audience seated on blankets and lawn chairs on the hill south of the

area where the shelter house is now located.

In the bi-centennial year, 1976, when the community

staged a Fourth of July parade, Pella school children participated along with veterans of American wars and people of the community who just felt like dressing up and marching around the square.

There were special open houses at each school building to show how the students were connecting twentieth century learning with 200 years of American history, and children's school papers were placed in the Time Capsule to be opened in 2076.

Pella has changed since its founders arrived — but one thing remains the same: the school children are still an important part of the community.

Vacations

Since the 1940's, the school calendar has had the same vacation periods each year: Labor Day, Thanksgiving weekend, the time from Christmas to New Year's, and a spring vacation, usually at Easter time. If the school year extends beyond Memorial Day, that is also a holiday. The calendar usually is approved by the board and announced approximately six months before the school year begins.

Board minutes in the 1880's and 1890's indicate that the school calendar was not planned very far in advance. The closing date for school often was chosen only a few weeks before the year ended. October board minutes often include a motion on the Thanksgiving vacation. Board minutes for September 16, 1889 note that the board voted a "half-day vacation for the Soldiers' Reunion and two half days for the Lake Prairie Township Fair."

School Nurse

No complete research has been done on the story of health care in the Pella schools. This report is based on information from **Pella Blade** files, **Pella Chronicle** files, school board minutes, Cyrenus Cole's **History of Iowa**, comments from former teachers and students and information from Karen Te Ronde, school nurse. ELH

The schools of Pella have been closed because of health problems several times. Probably the first time was in 1856 when Park School was closed temporarily because of a smallpox epidemic.

On September 10, 1878, the **Pella Weekly Blade** reported "Our public schools will not commence for at least one week because of the prevalence of diphtheria." Classes began, then closed again. On October 22 the **Weekly Blade** reported that school had re-opened but attendance was "very light" because of the large number of children who had the disease.

Schools were closed from October 14, 1918 until January 3, 1919 because of Spanish influenza which swept through the United States at the end of World War I. The two and a half months of school were made up by adding one hour each day, and a half day of classes on Saturdays until the end of the school year in June.

In 1922, the schools were closed for a few weeks because of smallpox. In 1930, second semester tests were canceled at the high school because so many people in the community were ill with smallpox. Churches, college, theaters, many offices and some stores were closed because of the epidemic. The school year ended early.

That probably was the last time that Pella schools were closed because of illness. But



KAREN TE RONDE, school nurse since March, 1974.

first semester tests were canceled once because so many students and teachers had Asian flu. The tests were postponed several times with the hope that a larger percentage of the students would be in school. When the third week of second semester began with a large percentage of students still ill, the tests were canceled.

Probably the first school nurse was Miss Esther Allbright, who had the title of Red Cross/School Nurse. She was hired in January of 1922. The February 23 issue of **Pella Chronicle** reported:

Miss Allbright is getting her work nicely started. The objections to this work that were raised before she started seem to have been dropped, for some children who reported that their parents would take them from school as soon as the nurse came are now asking the privilege of seeing the nurse.

Miss Allbright's report to the school board in March, 1922, showed that she had made 30 visits to schools and found 340 defects such as bad teeth, poor eyes and infected tonsils. She asked the school board to buy a scale so she could weigh the children and reported that

the biggest problem for children from fifth to eighth grade was their addiction to coffee.

In April 1922, after a public hearing, the board decided not to rehire the nurse because the school district could not afford to pay her. A month later, after many parents in the district objected, the board reversed its decision and hired the nurse for another year.

For approximately 40 years after that, the Pella schools were visited regularly by a nurse hired by Marion County. A county nurse still calls at the Pella Christian schools.

In the fall of 1964, the Pella Community School District hired a half-time school nurse. The duties required of her have gradually increased until in 1980, the school nurse works three-quarters time. Her duties are varied. One of her big responsibilities is health education, both in classes and in a one-to-one situation. She visits each school in Pella every day and goes occasionally to the schools at Otley and Leighton. A partial listing of her duties: vision and hearing screening tests, helping with physicals for athletics, first aid classes, first aid to students, checking students for lice, education on drug and alcohol abuse.

Life at School

A Typical Day

1848

*From a letter written by H. Hospers, one of the first teachers in Pella, to his parents in Holland on June 20, 1848. It is in the book **Amsterdamse Emigranten** translated by Martha Lautenbach.*

I get out of bed at 5:30 in the morning, wash myself and drink a cup of coffee and at 6 o'clock I go to school where I keep all my books and school-work. My teachers are Overkamp and Muntingh. At eight o'clock I eat breakfast and from 8:30 to 9 o'clock I watch the children arrive for school and organize their classes so they can study, as well as preparing myself for instructing. This lasts for one half to three quarters of an hour at which time the bell rings and school is officially in session. School opens with prayer.

1906

Based on information from Margaret Grundman Ver Steeg, PHS graduate of 1914, and Wilma Boland Lankelma, Class of 1913. ELH

A day at Lincoln School in 1906 began with the children playing games on the playground until 9 a.m. when the principal went out to stand on the top step on the south side of the building to ring her hand-bell. The children ran to line up in front of the building by grades, then marched to their rooms. Each classroom had an opening exercise which varied depending upon the teacher. Usually, the exercise included a patriotic song and salute to the flag followed by a hymn and a prayer. Some of the teachers read from the Bible.

The children used slates for their lessons, using a rag to

wipe the slates clean. "We were supposed to use water on our slate rags, but some children spit on their rags, and they smelled terrible," Mrs. Lankelma recalled. Some of the boys used their shirt sleeves. A couple of years later the children switched to tablets.

The children studied reading, writing, arithmetic, spelling, geography and history. They had a textbook for each subject. "Usually, we just went straight through the book," Mrs. Ver Steeg said. "The assignment almost always was to read the next chapter."

Each desk had an inkwell that the children used to dip their pens in when they had penmanship class. Sometimes, the girls' long braids of hair were dipped into the wells by the children who sat behind them.

There was no physical education class, but some teachers a couple of times a week had the children stand beside their desks and do a few exercises.

In the middle of the morning and again in the afternoon, the



THIRD GRADERS AT LINCOLN SCHOOL in 1905.

children went outside for recess. A popular game was Crack the Whip. Everyone got a drink at the pump during recess, all using the same tin cup. Many children spoke Dutch on the playground. The recess ended with the sound of the teacher's bell which signaled the children to line up and march back to class.

At noon, everyone went home for dinner. A few children who lived in the most distant corners of Pella or out in the country were allowed to take a sack lunch to school. The teachers took turns staying at school with them. On really cold days, all of the children were allowed to take their lunch to school.

The teachers and pupils were proud of their modern school with a furnace. They remembered that two years before at the old Park School, the teacher had to stop teaching to put coal into the stoves in each room several times a day.

The children almost always were getting ready for a pro-

gram. Several programs were held each year with the parents as the audience. The children "spoke pieces" or sang songs.

The main form of punishment was to stay in at recess or to write something several hundred times; for example, "I will not talk without permission." Sometimes, a child was sent to the principal's office for a spanking.

At 4 p.m. school was over. Each teacher had her pupils sit "in position" with hands on desks; then the teacher said "Turn, rise, pass" and the children marched out of the building.

1945

Based on "A Typical Day at P.H.S." in 1945 yearbook, Pellascopic. ELH

Band rehearsals begin at 7:55 a.m.; homeroom at

8:40 is followed by chapel in the auditorium.

After a stimulating program, general announcements, library fines, and other items of interest are read, seniors are told that they may go to their classes. Amidst the boos they amble out, immediately followed by juniors, sophomores and, lastly, freshmen. As the school settles down to a mild roar, it isn't long before an acrid smell wafts through the halls. Students are sympathetic with Miss Anderson and her first year home ec class.

Every 50 minutes, the classroom doors swing open and the students rush into the halls to go to the next class, stopping at lockers to pick up a snack. Sometimes they find "that someone has been called out of study hall to answer the telephone and got to the food before they did."

At noon, the town whistle blows, and teachers tell students to remain seated until the school bell rings. "For the next 30 seconds, everyone has a grand time griping about the terrible clocks around here that can't even give a fellow a break."

After lunch, everyone goes to the gym for a pep meeting. "Rousing cheers, peppy music and happy birthday songs take the spotlight as students and faculty join in the well-wishing for our team."

There are three more hours of classes during which some of the students are ordered to the detention class after school.

"Just what is this DETENTION," you ask. Well, at the beginning of the school term, it received a new name, something like the Concentration Camp. Students were horrified at the tales that originated in this famous room. Actually it's just the "No-you-can't-get-a-book" room, or the "We-told-you-in-class-that-basketball-practice-or-having-to-go-to-work-is-no-excuse" room. It's not so bad if you just get used to it (and I have).

The unsigned account ends, "I don't think I'll ever forget one day spent here in P.H.S."

1968-1972

By Lyle Horman
Class of 1972

Written for this book in 1979
at the request of his sophomore
English teacher. ELH

Restless waves pounding against ageless rocks. For many, the late 1960's and early 1970's bring into focus just such a metaphor of fury and collision. The swell of change and the undertow of tradition tugged at Pella High School during the crossover from 60's to 70's.



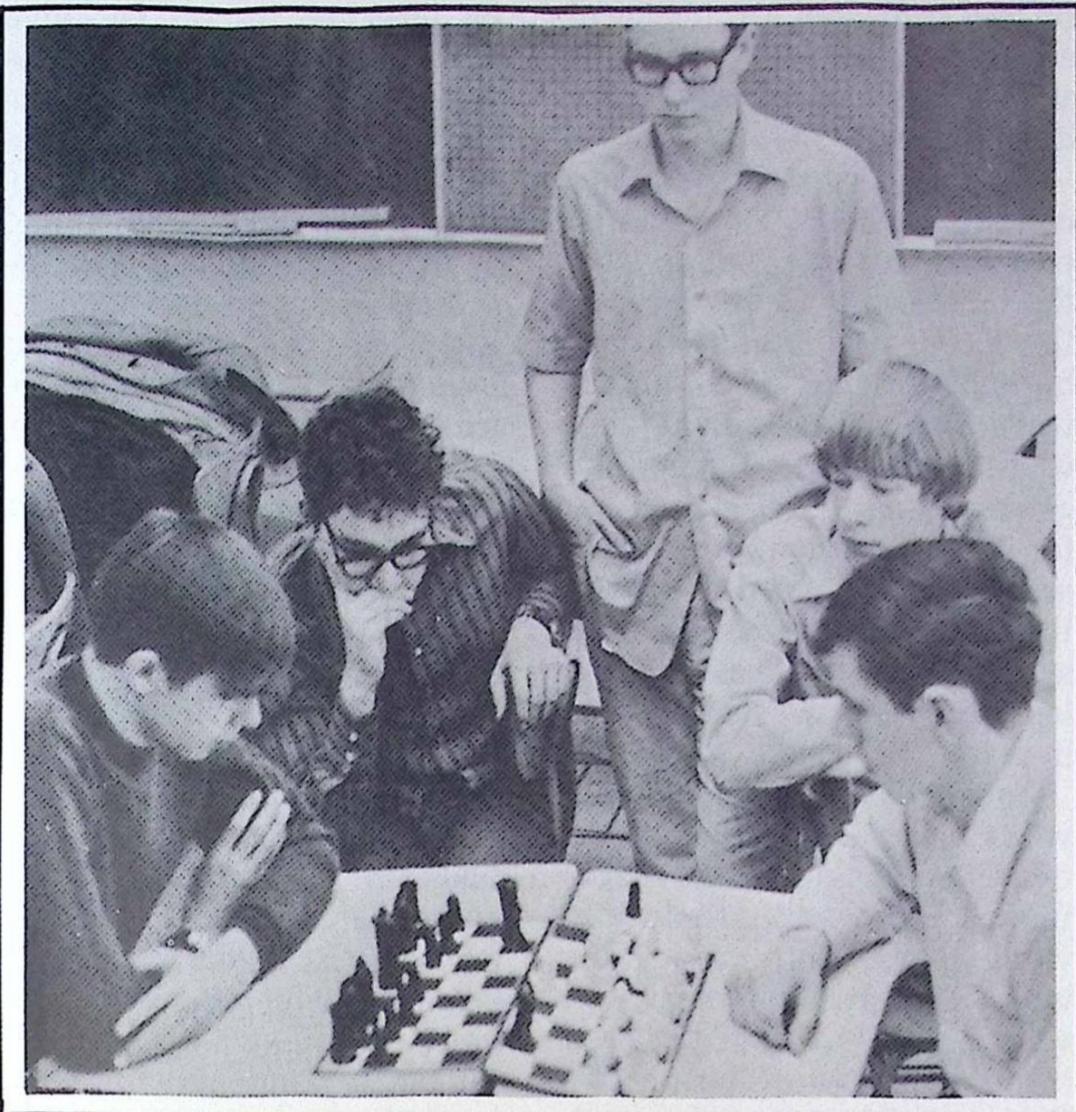
THE STAFF OF THE PELLASCOPE, second PHS yearbook, wrote about a typical day in 1945.

From the outside PHS appeared calm and modern. The building's straight contours, its shades of gray brick and stone, its undersized windows, and its trimmed shrubs made the school look clean and new and efficient. Out front the rectangular identifying sign announced "Pella Community High School" in angular block letters. There were no curves or arabesques. No titles or inscriptions broke the continuity of the walls' stone slabs. No ancient maples or elms softened the building's corners. Nature, however, reasserted its authority every spring with a dandelion invasion. By early May the golden warriors had laid siege to the school from every direction. Teachers may have been conquering ignorance within, but out there on the lawn the victory belonged to the weeds. Spring added the color the architects forgot, for yellow went well with gray.

Inside, too, PHS sported the institutional look. Neutral colors and pastels made the front lobby businesslike, a natural setting for dashing to buses or waiting in lunch line, but not for laughing or shouting. Down the

west corridor student lockers lined the walls like opposing platoons standing at attention in their dark green fatigues. And a chain-link grate capable of rolling up into the ceiling was rung down at night to separate the locker-soldiers from the civilian world of ball games and Friday night dances. Still, a hall of learning hardly seemed the right place for an iron fence.

The real color of PHS, outshining walls and halls and green-and-white, came from people. Any time after 8 o'clock the first crests of the morning student wave began to trickle in. By 8:15 the trickle took on flood proportions as school buses lined up at the east door like tankers waiting to dock and disgorge the cargo of their holds. For just a few minutes the crest surged. It lapped at the neutral colors and pastels with noise: locker door slams and dropped books and truncated conversations of "Whatcha got first period?" "Oh, history!" But the wave did not last. After ten minutes it had dissipated itself into the backwaters of individual classrooms. Teaching, if not learning, commenced with the 8:25 buzzer.



A CHESS CLUB flourished for a few years (Horman is second from right)...

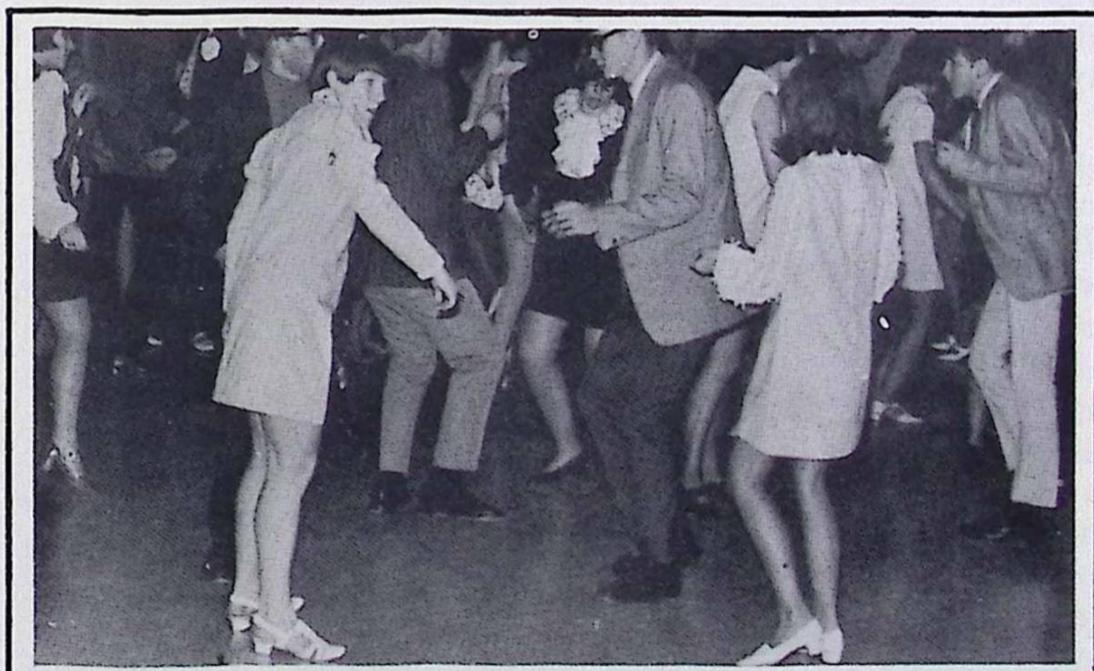
By the early 70's, though, the precision of 8:25 to 3:35 school days had ebbed. "Open campus" became the new catch phrase. The open campus concept got its first toehold in PHS as a senior privilege; seniors were allowed to come to school at the beginning of their first class and leave after their last one. Suddenly first period study hall gleamed like a pirate's treasure in the senior's eye. An open first period meant an extra hour's sleep. Nor was that all. When the Fates of music and PE and study hall chose to smile at the same time, a senior could attend school for only four class periods stretched across the midsection of the day.

Regular school days encompassed seven periods, approximately 55 minutes each, and into those sessions sailed the customary flotilla of biology and English and history and typing and all the rest. Few courses

were scheduled for one semester rather than a full year. Still, the trend toward shorter and more varied and more "relevant" courses, another legacy from the 60's, had already infected the universities. PHS

tradition was not wholly immune. The middle 70's spawned several new semester courses, particularly in English-related disciplines, such as creative writing and journalism. Trendy as they were, the new, shorter courses did extend scholarship's boundaries at PHS. Not until decade's end would zealots declare war upon traditional (and some would add, responsible) scholarship "multicultural" and "non-sexist."

Students' minds supposedly belonged to scholarship, but the dimensions beyond the books usually grabbed their hearts. Nowhere was this more evident than athletics. If interest in sports could be gauged by adding spectators to players, then no other extra-curricular activity came as close to universal appeal. Still, numbers could deceive. The ocean of faces in the stands or on the bleachers hid reasons for being there as varied as the faces themselves. For some, the game offered the excuse and the forum for getting together with friends; the final score didn't matter much, since what counted were the shared words and silences, precisely because they were shared with friends. For others, the game was a cause to believe in for just a few hours, a short



THE FIRST JUNIOR-SENIOR DANCE was held in 1969 and later developed into the annual Spring Prom, an important part of the school calendar in 1980.

but satisfying opportunity to be part of something larger than self, knit together by common loyalty to Pella High. And yet others used the game as a stage where they groped their way (both figuratively and literally) through the all-American custom of dating. Of course, many attended the game out of a genuine enjoyment of sport. Yet if fun and excitement profiled the good side of high school athletics, the uncritical acceptance of every facet of sport provided a less appealing view. Everybody supported sports, didn't they? Well, not quite all. This writer recalls cold shoulders and snide remarks as the price to be paid for unorthodox views about athletics. Even that pattern may have begun to unravel, though. Like a sailor who spies activity on the horizon but cannot determine whether he saw ship or island or mirage, an observer of PHS might have concluded that the sports partisans were beginning to tolerate their critics with a

bit less suspicion. Any ebbing of conformity, though, proceeded so quietly one could not be sure it was real.

No voyage through memories of the 60's and 70's would be complete without sailing past the battlements of dress codes. Dress codes had begun to loosen by 1970. Shorts and sandals were tolerated during hot weather, though T-shirt sloganizing was still a good bet for a trip home to change. Most administrators tried to retain the codes, but courtroom decisions effectively breached the legal levee which held the codes in place.

So what did those high school years mean? Were they meant to be like a holiday at the beach, full of color and people and vitality, up until graduation, which like twilight, scattered what opportunity had gathered together? Or were those years times to build sand castles, each year adding new towers for English or algebra or history, only to see those edifices eroded

by time and disuse? No, high school meant collecting shells and driftwood and visions of the sea for this writer. High school was a time for scooping up armfuls of facts and formulas and opinions and concepts and impressions. And like most collections of the sea's lesser treasures, many of those bits of learning were packed away in intellectual cartons to be stored in the mind's attic. But the finer pieces were kept for display. They became the showpieces of an emerging world-view, the foundations for understandings of politics and history and economics and society upon which maturity would build. Yet underpinning all those foundations lay a vision of what knowledge could accomplish and what it could not. Knowledge is like an ocean, vast and deep and sometimes unfathomable, but also delimited by the horizon where sea meets sky. Knowledge gives man countless routes to ply his world.

IN THE PERIOD FROM 1968 to 1972, a spring dinner in the cafeteria for faculty members and seniors was held a couple of years, but did not become a tradition...



Life at School

Sports

Introduction

Athletics probably are the aspect of Pella school history which is best documented. School yearbooks, newspaper articles, athletic record books, and the trophy case in the high school all give evidence of the activities of representatives of the school in the gymnasium, on the football field, on the track and on the baseball diamond.

This section of Pella School History does not attempt to give a complete report of sports activities of the school's teams.

Sources: Newspaper articles, official record books in the athletic director's office, school board minutes, file of high school yearbooks, PHS alumni and coaches. ELH

Development of Sports

Letters from immigrants to the relatives they left behind in Holland indicate that the first few years of life in the United States were mostly work and going to church. If there were any organized sports events in Pella, apparently no one kept any records of them.

By the 1890's, Pella had community athletic teams for baseball and basketball, but the first PHS team apparently was a group of boys who played basketball in 1899. The official name for the community teams was the Tigers; the PHS team was called "The Pella Boys."

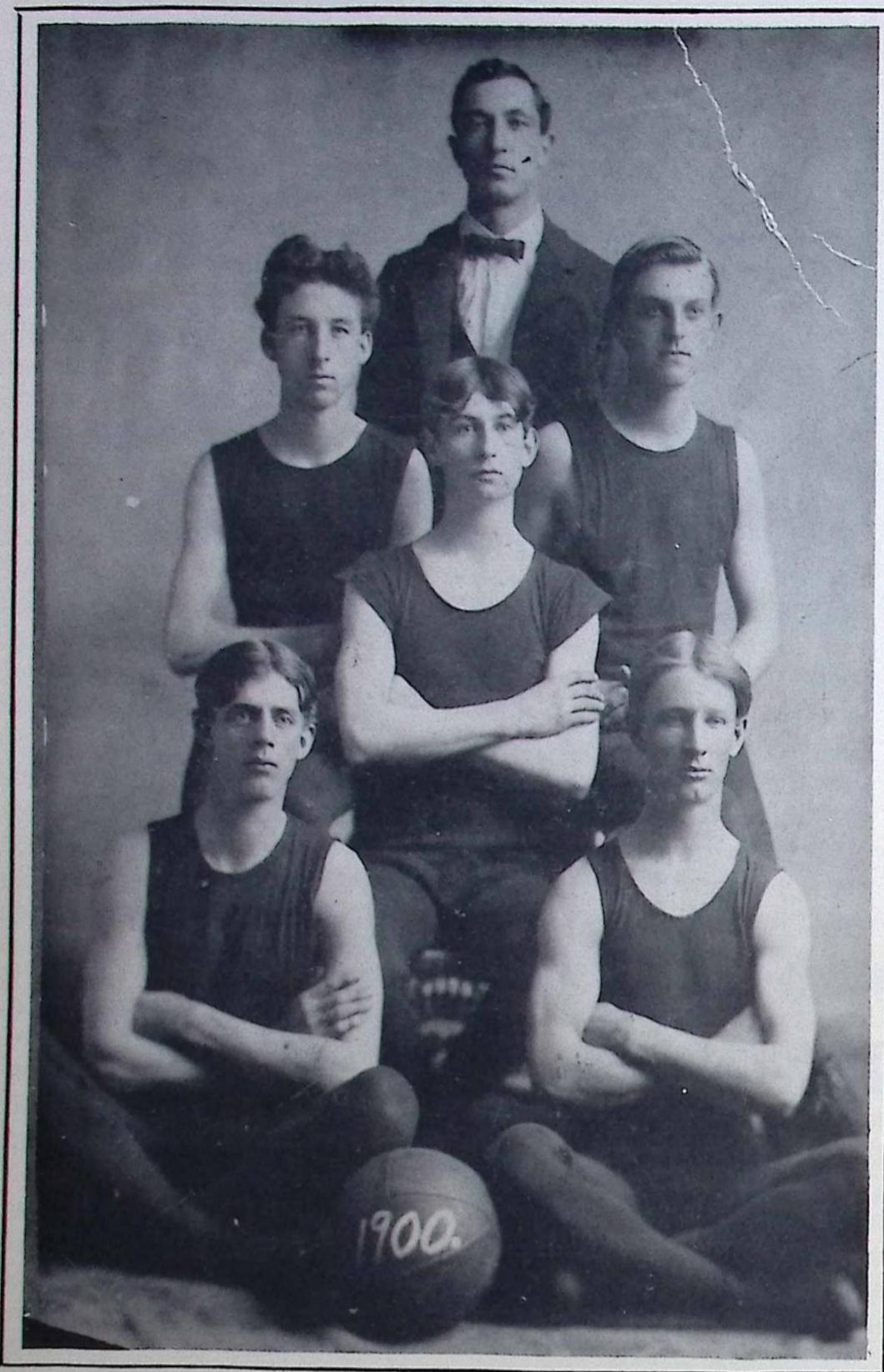
Until after World War I, Pella had basketball and baseball teams representing the YMCA, the community, Central College and Pella High School. The personnel of these teams seemed to move from team to team; the names of the teams were used interchangeably by spectators and newspaper reporters which complicates trying to write an accurate history.

There were few regular schedules. Few towns had a gym for basketball games; baseball games were played on vacant lots or in parks. No school in the area had an athletic field.

Transportation to games was a problem. The school owned no school buses. In the first decade of this century, the teams drove to out-of-town games in horse-drawn wagons or buggies. Later, the teams were taken to their games in private cars driven by fans.

The YMCA-YWCA building on the Central College campus where the Arts-Behavioral-Sciences Building is now located had an athletic program for boys from seventh grade through high school. Most of the games were between Pella teams, but three or four times a year, the Y secretary would arrange an out-of-town game. There were no Little Leagues, but it was easy to have a pick-up game on the vacant lots around town. No football was played.

Intramural sports for boys



SLOW CAMERA SHUTTERS made this type of sports picture necessary in 1900 when the PHS team posed with its coach, Mr. Strickland. On the floor are John Van Vliet and a boy named Walter. In the center is Cornie Wormhoudt, and in the back are Martin Kamerick and Gerrit Waechter.

and girls became important in the second decade of this century. Sometimes high school teachers, both men and women, joined in the fun on one of the teams.

About the time of World War I, the school began scheduling athletic contests with other schools. The school did not belong to a conference but arranged games with the other high schools in the county: Knoxville, Attica, Dallas,

Melcher, Pleasantville and Harvey plus Monroe and Prairie City. The longest trip each year was to Sigourney. A corner of the Webster School basement, reached by crawling through a window, was the dressing room.

"The desire to beat Knoxville was just as strong then as it is now," said Babe Tysseling, who started going to Pella athletic events about 1915.

County tournaments were held each year for boys' and

girls' basketball teams, although the state tournaments had not started. There was a county track meet each spring for boys.

Scheduling of athletic contests, formation of teams and the hiring of coaches all developed gradually. At first, coaching was a matter of some faculty member taking an interest in a sport and volunteering to serve as coach. He frequently would be assisted by volunteers from the community.

For many years, Pella High had only one coach who coached all of the sports. During the 1920's the coach was R. C. Amidon who also was the principal and the industrial arts teacher. There wasn't much money to be spent on athletics, and the football boys helped the budget by buying their own helmets as well as their shoes.

School colors of green and white apparently were adopted about 1920. There is conflicting evidence about when this decision was made. Since class colors were more important to most students of the 1920's than school colors, and since the teams had a tendency to wear whatever outfits were available, the alumni of the period do not agree on when the school colors became official.

The South Central Athletic Conference was formed in 1929 with Pella as one of the first members. Membership has varied. In 1939, it included Lincoln of Des Moines and Valley of West Des Moines.

Central College adopted the nickname of Flying Dutchmen in the 1930's. Shortly after that, Pella High teams were christened The Little Dutch, and junior high teams were The Junior Dutchmen. The first girls' teams were Duchesses; later they took the name Lady Dutch.

In 1972 as the number of sports offered increased, Paul Ostrander, teacher and coach at PHS, cut down on his teaching and coaching loads

and became a half-time athletic director. The percentage of his time spent on the duties of the athletic director has increased each year since then.

The custom of awarding letters to athletes to recognize their accomplishments began early in this century. When Babe Tysseling graduated in 1928, he had 13 letters, more than anyone had ever earned before. He had four letters in football, four in basketball, three in baseball and two in track. Jay Bender, Class of 1976, and Scott De Jong, Class of 1979, tied that record. No one has surpassed it.

From its first informal teams, Pella school athletics have grown to include five sports for middle school boys, four for middle school girls; eight for high school boys and seven for high school girls. The staff to coach these sports has grown to 19, all of whom are certified teachers who also teach classes.

Chronology

These are the dates when various sports started at PHS. A more thorough search of available sources might give slightly different dates. Sources used were reminiscences of PHS alumni, school board minutes, newspapers, athletic record books and school yearbooks. ELH

Approximately 1899 - Boys' basketball.

Approximately 1905 - Baseball.

1913 - Board granted permission for organization of a football team but apparently no games were played until 1914.

Approximately 1920 - Track for boys began. This sport has been on and off the list of PHS sports several times.

1917 - Basketball for girls.

This sport was dropped in 1922 when a player fainted at a county tournament, added in 1946; dropped about 1955, and added again in 1973.

1962 - Golf for boys.

1966-67 - Wrestling (No conference action until the following school year.)

1969 - Junior High football.

1971 - Tennis for boys; bowling for boys.

1972 - Tennis for girls.

1973 - Golf for girls; bowling for girls.

1974 - Track for girls.

1975 - Softball for girls.

1979 - Volleyball for girls.

Boys' Basketball Was First

In 1891 James A. Naismith, a PE teacher at the International YMCA (Young Men's Christian Association) Training School in Springfield, Mass., invented basketball, using a soccer ball and peach baskets. On December 10, 1896, the first inter-collegiate basketball game was played at New Haven, Conn. with Yale defeating Wesleyan by 39 to 4. In 1904 basketball was demonstrated at the Olympic games.

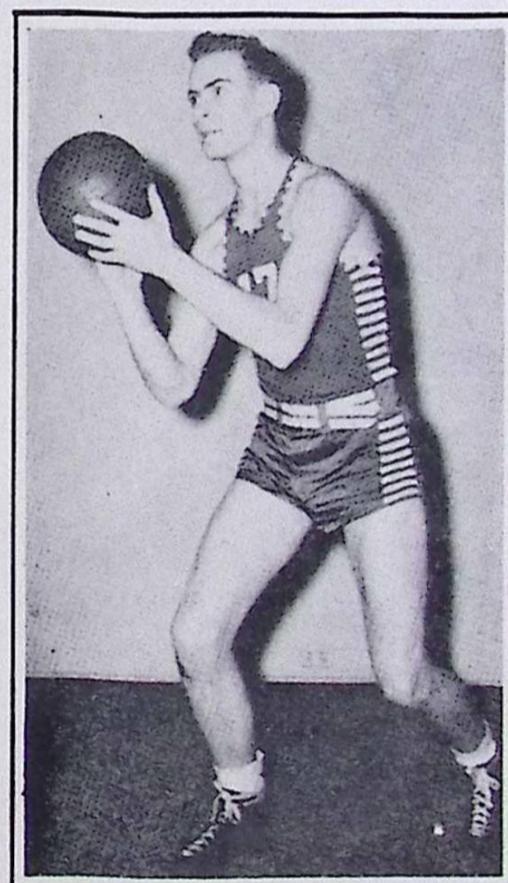
Those facts are found in many histories of athletics. It is not so simple to find the date of the first PHS basketball game. From the 1890's until the time of World War I, Pella had basketball teams representing the YMCA, Central College, Pella High School and the community.

The high school team played a variety of teams; for example, in 1900 they played the Bible class of Second Reformed Church, losing 27 to 24. Games were arranged informally and played in whatever space was available. Pella's home games were played in a gymnasium in the YMCA building at Central College. In some towns, the games were in an empty store

building. The basketball floor at Eddyville had a stove in the middle of the playing area which required special rules. In 1915 the gym was ready in Pella's new high school at 712 Union Street and Pella proudly claimed to have the best gym in Marion County. "It didn't take much to be the best gym at that time," said C. C. Buerkens, who played in the first game in the gym when he was a senior.

The first county basketball tournament took place in the Knoxville High School gym in 1915 with teams from each of the six high schools in the county — Pella, Tracy, Bussey, Knoxville, Attica and Melcher. Knoxville won the tournament by defeating Pella 23 to 19. The county tournaments ended in the 1950's.

Basketball scores were much lower in the early years of the game than now. One reason for this was the rule which required representatives of each team to go to the center of the floor for a jump ball after every score.



ACTION SHOT for the 1946 yearbook was carefully posed. It was the school's third yearbook, but the first one called **Duchess**.

Sometimes a score is listed in the record books as 2-0. This was used when a team forfeited a game. The record books do not list reasons for those forfeitures, but alumni recall that sometimes a team failed to go to a game because of shortage of money, lack of transportation or poor driving conditions.

"The best team Pella High ever had" is a phrase which shows up more than once in materials about the PHS basketball teams. The 1928 team, with Babe Tysseling as high scorer, was outstanding. The 1940 team won all but two of its 26 games. One of those losses was to Lincoln of Des Moines in a game that had Lincoln leading 19 to 3 at the half but ended with the Pella team only five points short of victory. Gene Stientjes set a season record of 241 points that year.

The 1934-1935 team, coached by the high school principal, Clarence Wilkins, beat North High of Des Moines 30 to 9. The 1944 team was undefeated in conference play and lost only two games. Marshalltown and Dowling both beat Pella by one point.

Highlights of the 1951-1952 basketball season were the defeat of Knoxville, 67-62; handing Lincoln of Des Moines its first defeat of the season, 34 to 28, and winning the county basketball tournament.

In the spring of 1975, the boys' basketball team put Pella into a state basketball tournament for the first time. The Little Dutch were in a state tournament again in 1979, winning third place in Class AA.

At the end of the 1978-1979 season, the Little Dutch won their 14th basketball con-

ference championship. Dave Bender was coach of ten of the teams. The dates for the conference titles are:

1940	1968
1945	1972
1956	1973
1959	1975
1963	1976
1964	1978
1965	1979

Records for Pella Basketball teams:

Best season record: 20-1, 1975-76

Most wins in one season: 23-2, 1978-79

Longest game: Versus Knoxville in 1962-63 season; game had five overtimes with Pella winning 56-53.

Most points in one season: Gordon Graham, 523

Most Career Points: Jay Bender, 1173

Most Career Rebounds: Larry Olsthoorn, 849

On Again, Off Again for Boys' Track

Track for boys probably began at Pella High School about 1920. It was on and off the list of PHS sports several times until the 1950's; since then it has been an important part of spring sports activities. Trackmen began using the new track and football facilities at the corner of University and East Thirteenth Street in the spring of 1977, and in 1978 began an annual Pella Invitational Track meet which they have won since it started.

Roger Slykhuis probably was the first PHS athlete to place in a state track meet. It was an indoor meet in 1963. Randy Sloan probably was the first to place in a state outdoor meet; he won second in two events in 1967, the 120-yard high hurdles and 180-yard low hurdles.

Other winners at Class A state meets were:

One-Mile Relay team, third place (3:31.6) in 1973.



1978-79 LITTLE DUTCH basketball team won more games than any previous PHS team and earned third place in the state tournament at Veterans' Auditorium in Des Moines.

Gary Van Hemert, 440-yard dash, fourth place (51.2) in 1973.

Scott Visser, 3,200-meter run, third place (9:39.1) in 1979.

A board in the gym recognizes the current holders of school records in track events. In 1980, Dennis Van Gorp, Gary Van Hemert and Scott Visser each hold two of the all-time school records.

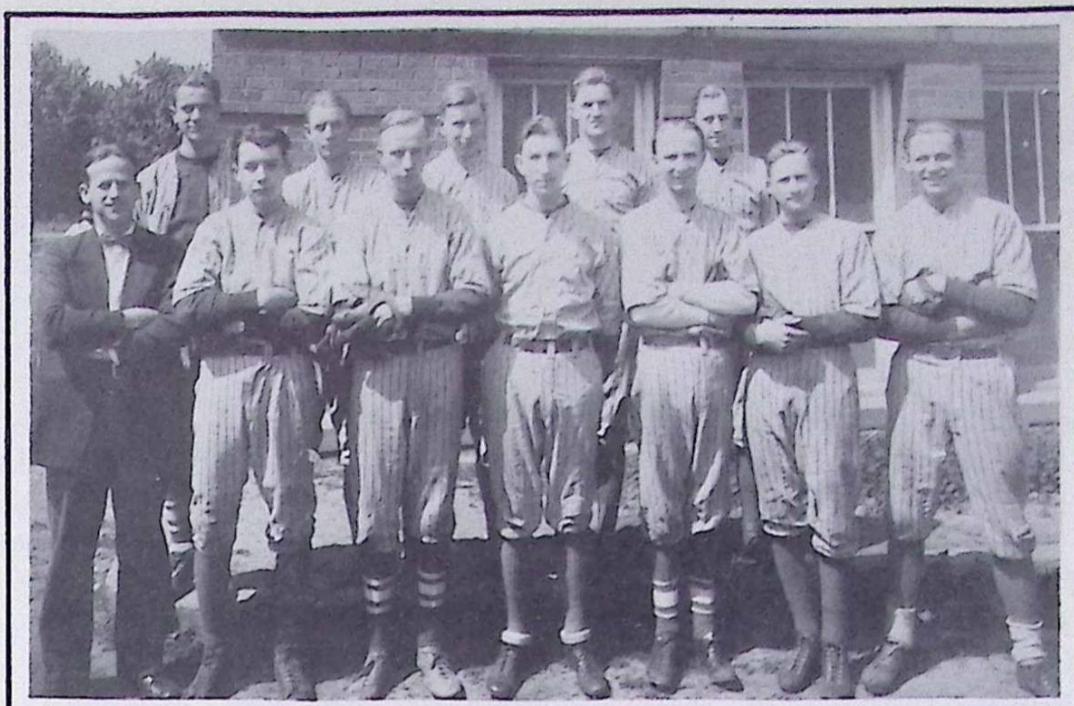
4 Wrestlers to State Meets

Wrestling was added to the sports program at Pella High School in the 1966-1967 season with Jim Elwell as the first coach. Coaches since then were Marvin Sloan, 1967-69; Jim Henderson, 1969-1972 and Jerry Hirrschoff, who has coached wrestling since 1972.

The Pella Invitational Wrestling tournament began in 1968 and has been held annually since then. Pella's Les Nieuwsma was the first participant to win three championships at the Pella Invitational. He won at 98 pounds in 1972 and at 112 pounds in 1973 and again in 1974.

The only Pella High wrestler to win a match at a state meet was Paul Benshoof who won two different times. He won his first round match at 138 pounds in 1978 and again at 167 pounds in 1979. Others who qualified for the state meet were Les Nieuwsma (twice, at 98 pounds in 1973 and at 112 pounds in 1975), Eric Ryerson in 1968 and John Bruxvoort in 1973. Nieuwsma in 1975 and Benshoof in 1979 are the only PHS wrestlers who have won district championships.

Greg Allen is the only wrestler to have an undefeated season at 25-0 his senior year in 1977-78. An injury in the sectional finals ended his high school wrestling career.



PELLA HIGH BASEBALL TEAM in the late 1920's.

Baseball

Pella was a baseball town, the people say who remember what was going on in the first decades of the twentieth century. There were teams for the town, the college and the high school plus sandlot games for little kids all over town.

Baseball was not a conference sport until 1954. "We free-lanced it," said Jim Ruthven, who was assistant baseball coach from the time he started teaching at PHS in 1948 until 1953 when he became head baseball coach.

Baseball was a spring sport until 1954 when it expanded into a summer program. There also was an American Legion baseball program, which was basically the same players as the PHS team except that some Pella Christian High boys were added.

Several times, the baseball team made it to sectional or district tournaments. In 1964, they were in the finals of the district tournament.

Pella has won two conference championships in baseball, in 1971 and again in 1972. Paul Ostrander was the coach of

those teams.

In 1975, softball for girls was added to the summer sports program.

On the Record

Athletic record books, in varying degrees of completeness, beginning with September of 1925 are in the office of Athletic Director Paul Ostrander at Pella Community High School.

The information varies from year to year. Sometimes, the records include a financial report on the games. For example, gate receipts for the 1927 football season ranged from 75 cents for a game with Kellogg to \$58.75 for the annual Armistice Day classic on November 11 with Knoxville. Gate receipts for the 1977 football season were \$5,834.97.

Some of the track pages give school records for various events; some of the football and basketball pages list scoring records of individual players. Some pages suggest that whoever was in charge of filling out the reports got tired of his

assignment and quit in the middle of the season.

First scores in an official PHS record book are for the football season in 1926. Scores look much like the scores of football games played half a century later, but names of the towns on the PHS schedule are different than the schools played since school reorganization.

Football Season - 1926

Opponent	We	They
Melcher	6	6
Kellogg	0	14
Pleasantville	15	7
Dallas	0	6
Fremont	27	0
Pleasantville	7	10
Prairie City	21	6
Knoxville	14	7
New Sharon	20	0
New Sharon	0	0

Usually, the records are completely impersonal. However, beside the reports of a basketball game in 1927 that was lost to Dallas by a score of 6 to 30, the record keeper noted, "Babe did not play." This comment refers to Babe Tysseling who was a star athlete in PHS at that time.

Close scores sometimes evinced a comment on the record book pages. In 1945, Pella lost its last home basketball game of the season to Chariton, 25 to 20. The record-book keeper wrote, "Score was 13-13 at half. This game decided the conference championship." A final score of 23 to 24 inspired the record-book keeper to write, "Pella was beaten in the last 20 seconds." By another basketball score, with Pella 30 and Chariton 32, is the note, "Lost conference championship by long basket by Chariton, 8 seconds left. Pella ahead 22-13 at half."

Across the middle of the baseball page in 1950 is written, "Rest of the games cancelled because of neglect on the part of the boys to come to practice."

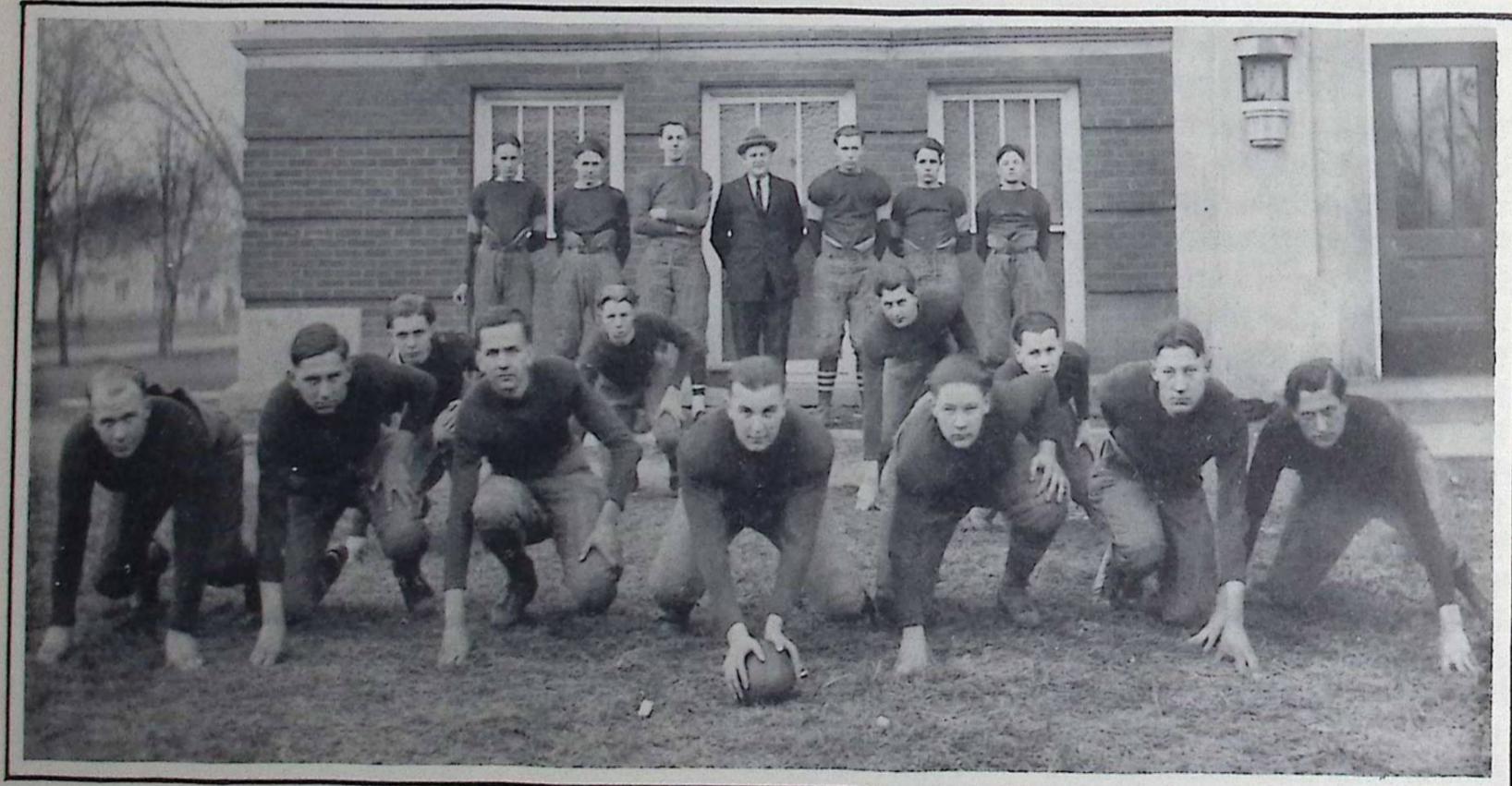
Basketball's changing rules and changing styles of play are reflected in the scores in the books; for example, Pella defeated Monroe 20 to 3 in 1931 and beat Harvey 18 to 17 in 1928.

The books also show the effect of the requirement that football players wear mouth

guards. Before this rule went into effect, the page at the back of each book for recording student injuries in athletic contests frequently mentioned the chipping of teeth or teeth knocked out.

The athletic record books reflect changes in regulations by the legislature and by the Iowa High School Athletic Association. In the 1950-51 official Athletic Association record book, the school was required to report how many athletes lived outside the district and paid tuition. This was before the legislature mandated that all rural school districts become a part of a high school district. Pella High School had 37 athletes who lived in the school district and 19 who lived in the surrounding rural area.

In September of 1918, minutes of the school board show that Jay Kempes was employed as athletic director during the football season. During the following years, it was the duty of the high school principal, the superintendent, a coach or some faculty member to keep records. The athletic director now schedules games and keeps records of all of the sports.



THE PELLA BOYS, who didn't yet have a team nickname, lined up for their picture with their whole string of substitutes in 1923.

Girls Win in Track

The girls' track team, organized in 1974, has dominated the conference since 1977, winning the conference title for three consecutive years. At the end of 1979, Lori Boyd was the outstanding track-woman, the only PHS girl who finished her high school career with more than 400 points on a point system set up when the program started.

Girls' Basketball 1946

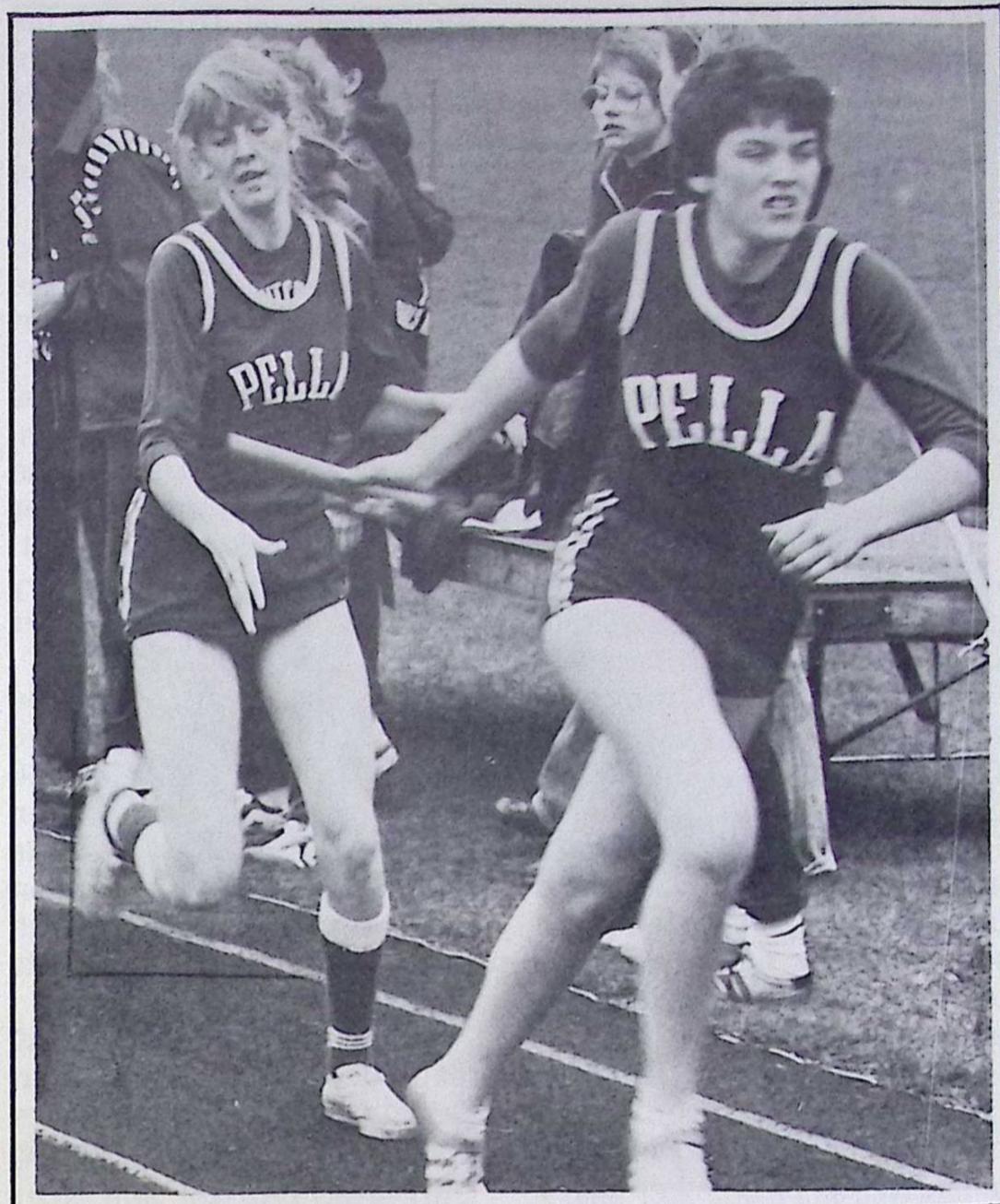
From Pella High School's third yearbook.

Girls' basketball is relatively new in Pella High School. There has always been some playing of basketball in the physical training classes, but never before has there been a selected team as we now have. These girls, under the coaching and able leadership of Miss Mildred Bishop, struggled along throughout the season under several handicaps. They were limited to practice sessions, but finally were given two forty-five minute practices a week during noon hour. Several of their games, too, were played during this hour. Because of the inexperience of many of the first six, their progress was hampered.

The "A" squad consisted of three seniors, two juniors, and one freshman. They were selected to go to the county tournament where they were defeated by Bussey.

Because of the continued popularity of girls' basketball, the seniors graduating from the team hope that in the future more time will be allowed for practices, and that through the cooperation of the entire school, the majority of games played will end in victory rather than defeat.

Co-captains — Nola Boot
Margaret Buwalda



TRACK FOR GIRLS was a result of the movement to give girls the same athletic opportunities as boys had.



GIRLS' BASKETBALL CHAMPIONSHIP WON BY PELLA, 1922 are the words on the banner in the faded picture of one of the first championship teams of PHS.

Girls' Basketball

Basketball was the first sport for PHS girls. Shortly after World War I, the girls played intramural games, and by 1922 they were playing a team from Central College and teams from nearby towns. About 1923 a player fainted during the county basketball tournament, and the school board withdrew its approval of the sport.

Girls continued to play basketball in physical education classes, then were allowed to schedule five games with teams from other towns during the 1946-47 school year. The *Duchess* reported that they practiced on Thursday nights "and occasionally another open night when the gym was not in use." That year, the girls wore white T-shirts under a set of uniforms that had been discarded by the boys' team.

The girls' basketball team had a checkered record, even though they got some new uniforms of their own. Some years they lost every game they played, and in 1953 they won

the consolation trophy at the sectional tournament. They continued girls' basketball, usually with coaches from Central College, until the late 1950's, then the sport was withdrawn.

Girls' basketball was revived at PHS Nov. 16, 1973 when the girls played Fairfield with Fairfield winning 71-42.

The first victory for the new team, called the Lady Dutch, came in a non-conference game with South Tama on December 7, 1974; the score was 78-41. The first conference victory was February 4, 1975 over Clarke of Osceola, 57-56.

The Lady Dutch tied for the South Central Conference championship in the 1977-1978 season and won top spot in 1978-1979. They have won the conference title two of the last six years and advanced through the sectional tournament into the district tournament twice.

The girls were one of 40 teams in the state invited to participate in a clinic sponsored by the Girls' Athletic Union in November, 1979.

Some team records set from 1974 to 1979:

Most points scored in a game: 94 vs. Clarke, Feb. 3, 1976.

Fewest points allowed in a game: 24 by Chariton, Dec. 22, 1978.

Best season record: 16-7 in 1978-79.

Football Was Forbidden

On September 11, 1905, the Pella school board prohibited football on the school grounds.

On August 13, 1906, the board passed this resolution: Resolved: That football be positively prohibited in any manner, shape or form and that there be no organization known as the Pella High School Football team and that no vacations be granted for the purpose of visiting football games during school hours.

At that time, football was a controversial subject in the United States. The game had been imported from England about 1870, but Americans took the English Rugby and added such things as the "flying wedge," making it a rough and dangerous game which resulted in many injuries. At first the game was played mostly by college teams. In the first decade of the twentieth century, many high schools began fielding teams, and athletes at PHS were anxious to play the game. They sometimes had informal games with no coach and no schedule between groups of Pella boys. Sometimes, they would arrange a game with a similar group from another town. Many boys of the town were ordered by their parents not to play football, and there were some boys who sneaked away from home to play. They usually played on the Central College field, located where the music building now stands.

In 1905, representatives of colleges with football teams started a series of meetings to



SOUTH CENTRAL CONFERENCE FOOTBALL CHAMPS of 1958 and cheerleaders celebrated by climbing on a fire engine for a ride around the square. The team beat Valley High of West Des Moines 33 to 7. Their only defeat that season was at the hands of Centerville, 32 to 6. At that time, Valley was in the conference, Centerville was not.

change football rules. From 1906 on, many changes were made in the rules. Mass plays such as the flying wedge with 10 men running down the field in an arrow formation with a ball carrier in the middle were outlawed. Pushing and pulling by his teammates of the man carrying the ball and piling on a downed man were outlawed. The rules were changed to permit a forward pass.

In 1910, the **Pella Chronicle** had its first coverage of a football game. The reporter described the Central game as difficult to understand, then commented that the players seemed to be enjoying themselves.

On October 13, 1913, the school board granted permission for a boys' football team to be organized at Pella High School. Apparently the first game was played in 1914. The team had only 11 pairs of football shoes, so when a substitution was made, it was necessary to have a time out until players could change shoes.

In 1918, the board hired an athletic director whose main job was to coach the football team. The games were played after school on Fridays with teams from nearby towns. The teams had a big following among the student body, but few adults attended.

In the late 1920's, night football began to be popular in the United States. In 1933, Central College decided to install lights on its football field, which PHS teams used for their games. There was much excitement in the community as the team prepared for its first night game. Their opponent was Sigourney, and Pella won by a score of 6-0.

The school district owned no school buses, so fans and team went to games in private cars. Occasionally, a truck load of students would drive to an out-of-town game, or a group would ride to the game on an old fire engine.



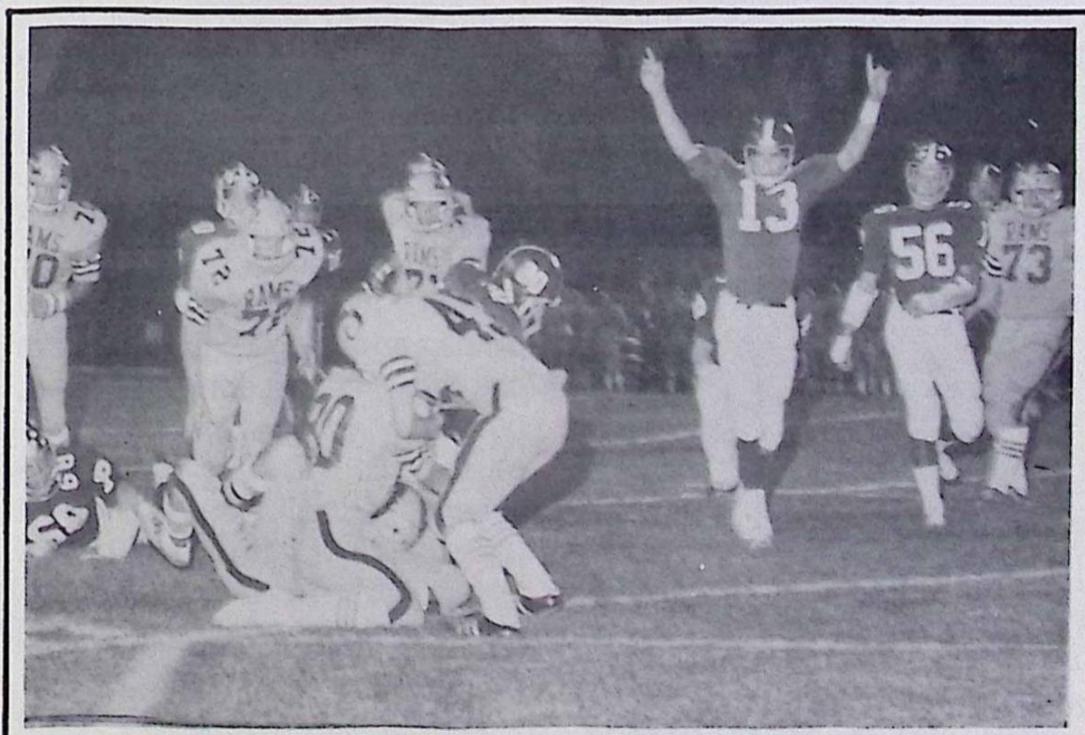
FIRST HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL GAMES were played at the Central College field which was laid out parallel to the railroad tracks where the music building stands now. Some football games were played on the school athletic field on Independence Street.

The opponents of the Little Dutch have been varied. In 1932, they lost to Prairie City, 0-38. In 1941, they beat Lincoln of Des Moines 6-0.

During the 1945 season, the team tied one game, won another one, then lost the remain-

ing six games after their two star players joined the army.

The football team has had a checkered record. In 1946, they lost seven games and tied one. In 1948, they ran up one of the highest scores in their history, defeating Sigourney 50 to 13. In



1978 LITTLE DUTCH were the first PHS football team to make it to the state football playoff.



LITTLE DUTCH team of 1933 lined up beside the high school. Shoulder pads were smaller then.

1951, they won their first conference football victory in six years, defeating Indianola 12 to 6. They won their first conference football crown in 1958. They won the conference title again in 1973, 1978 and 1979 with Norris Hale as coach.

The junior varsity won their division of the South Central conference for the first time in 1969.

In 1978, the Little Dutch for the first time were in a playoff game for a state football championship. In 1979, the team earned the consolation trophy in the state playoffs.

Golfers to State

The boys' golf team has gone to the state tournament nine times since it was organized in the spring of 1962. In 1968, the team was state runner-up; in 1969 and 1973, they were state champions..

Coach Bender Sets Record

Source: Interview with Dave Bender in February, 1980. ELH

Dave Bender, who began coaching boys' basketball at PHS in the fall of 1961, has been a head coach longer than anyone else in the school's history.

Minor rule changes have been made in the game of basketball, players are bigger and quicker, the game is faster, hair styles have changed several times, and trends and fads in coaching have come and gone, but one thing remained unchanged during those 19 seasons, Coach Bender said at the end of the 1979-1980 season: There still is an immense amount of dedication on the part of the players.

Basketball teams have more equipment than when Bender began coaching. For example, an ice-making machine is now available for use if ice is needed

to treat a player's sprained ankle. When he began coaching, Bender sent someone outside for a bucket of snow if he needed to treat a sprain.

Long pants for warm-up suits were in fashion when he started coaching; a few years later, only jackets were used for warm-up. Now the long pants are back in fashion. When he started coaching, boys wore letter sweaters, now they have letter jackets.

In the early 1970s, there was a trend to have players wear a two-and-one-half-pound weight on each ankle several hours daily to develop muscles. No coach does this anymore, but there is a new trend to have players wear special vests which weigh about 12 pounds each, Bender said.

"The skill of the players has improved remarkably," Bender observed at the end of his 19th year in Pella. Attending basketball camps and watching excellent players on television are among the causes for the improvement, Bender believes.

Bender graduated from East Waterloo High School where he lettered in football, basketball, baseball and track. As a student at University of Northern Iowa (then called Iowa State Teachers' College) in Cedar Falls, he played basketball and was on the track team. He graduated from UNI in 1958 then coached at Parkersburg for three years before coming to Pella.

When he started, the classes he taught were called "Physical Training." For many years, the classes were called "Physical Education." Now, the trend is to use the name which reflects the current philosophy of teachers in the field, "Health, Physical Education and Recreation." Bender taught World History at Pella High for three years and has been teaching driver education since 1963.

Bender started the boys' golf team at PHS in 1962, coaching the team from then until 1973 and from 1978 to 1980. During

that time, his teams were conference champions nine times, state runner-up in 1968 and state champions twice, in 1969 and in 1973.

During his 19 years coaching basketball in Pella, Bender's teams have won 12 conference championships. Two teams went to state basketball tournaments, one in 1975 and another in 1979 which ended up as third place winner in the state event.

Although records are not complete, the 1978-1979 season probably was the best one in the history of the school's basketball teams. The team won 23 games, lost two and won third place in the state tournament. In 1976, the team had a perfect no-loss record during the regular basketball season; this probably was the only time that happened in the history of the school.

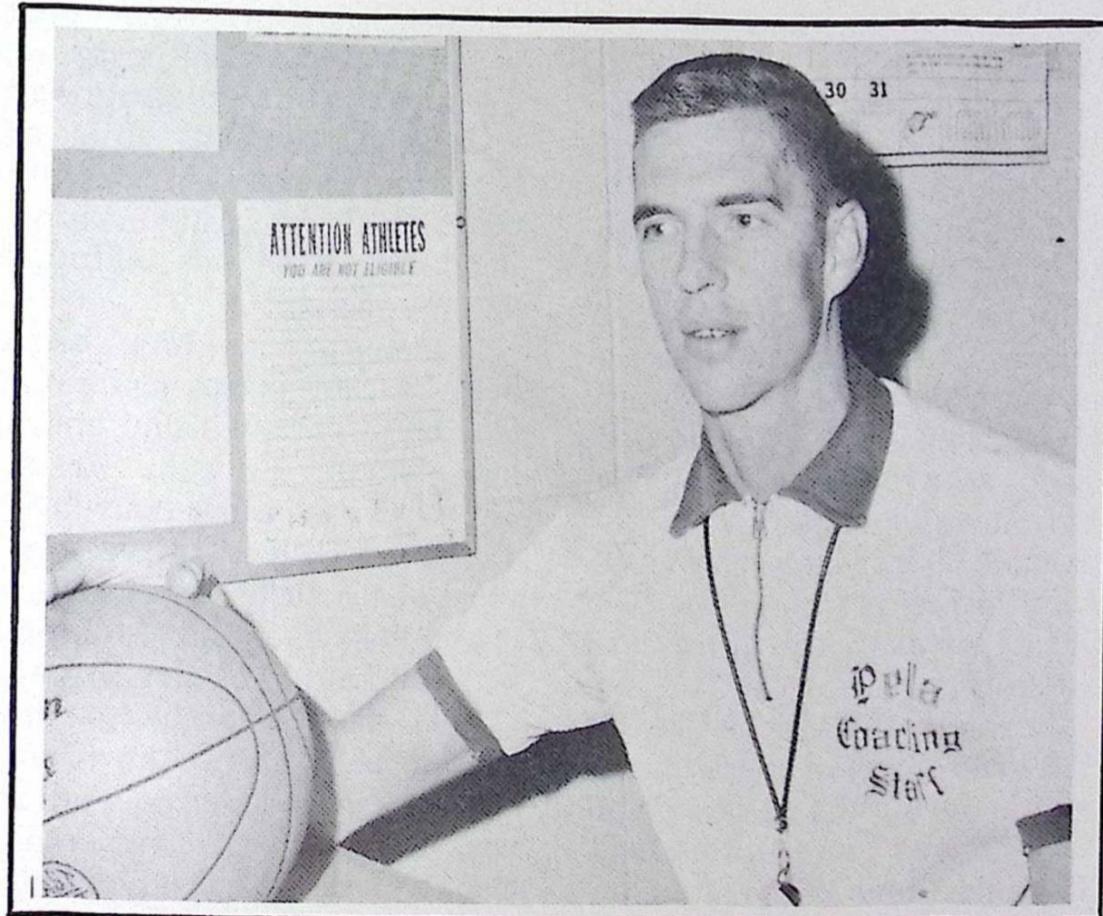
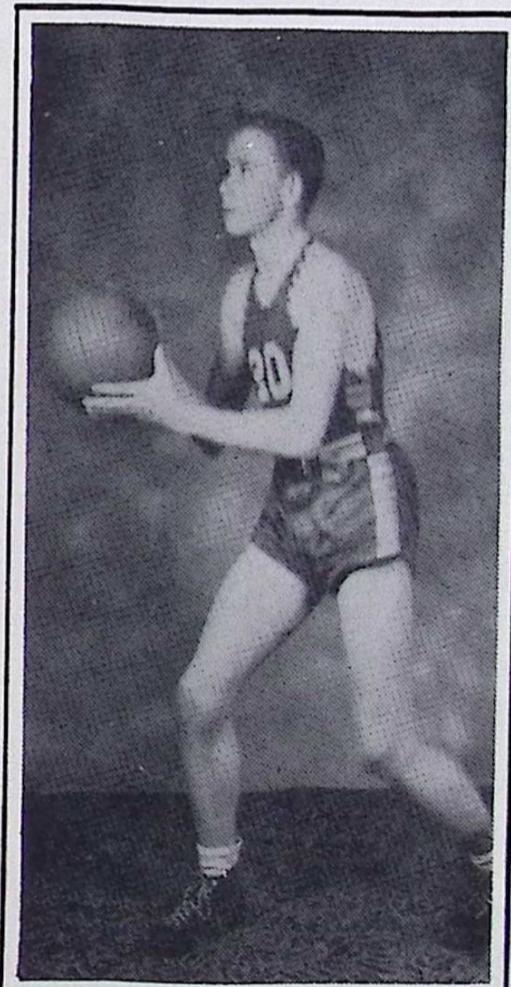
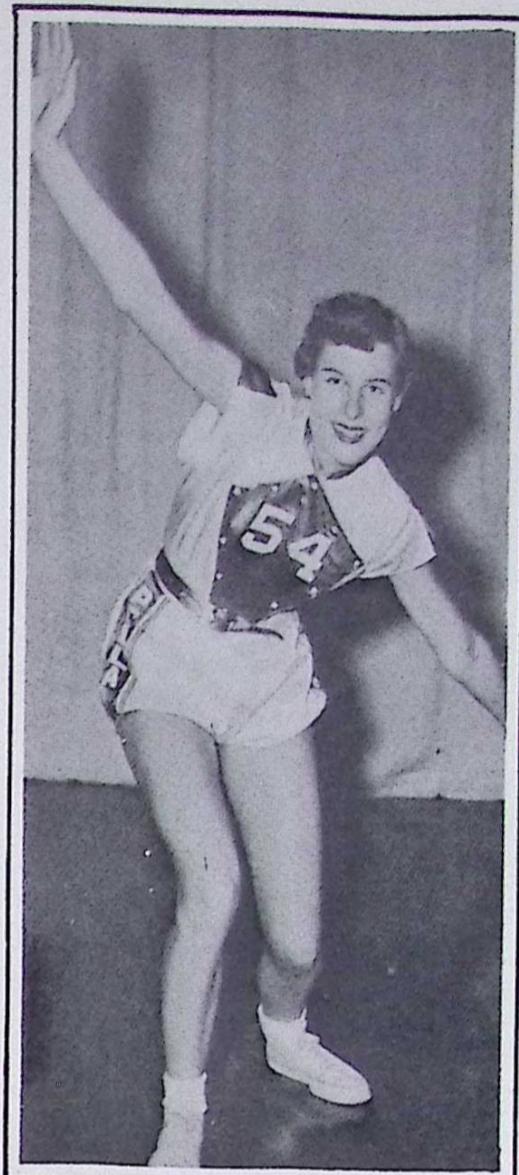
At the end of the 1979-1980 season, Coach Bender had a record of coaching teams for a total of 308 victories.

Bender has coached several pairs of brothers during his 19 years. The largest group from one family was Dennis, Steve, Dave and Lyle Van Wyk. He has not had the sons of any of his players on his teams, but he has been in charge of basketball camps attended by the children of some of his former players.

How Times Change

Sept. 23, 1909 - A front page story in the **Pella Chronicle** quoted F.M. Frush, superintendent of schools, "A new basketball has been purchased and as soon as the basketball season opens, the team will be ready for work."

March, 1980 - Paul Ostrander, PHS athletic director, said, "I have no idea how many basketballs we have. I order 16 each year; eight for the boys and eight for the girls."



DAVE BENDER

"ACTION SHOTS" were carefully posed at the photographer's studio before film became fast enough for real action pictures. Top picture was taken in 1954, bottom picture was in 1947.

Graduation

What and Who

Graduation Activities

Based on information from newspaper accounts, graduation programs, official school records, reminiscences of alumni and school yearbooks. ELH

Pella High School began classes in 1876 and possibly had its first commencement the same year. C.C. Cory, superintendent, presided at commencement each spring as several musical numbers were presented, and each of the graduates gave a talk or read an essay. Diplomas, bought in Des Moines with a blank place for each name to be written in, were presented by Cory.

The early commencements set a pattern which was followed until the first decade of the twentieth century. In 1880, a Junior Class Exhibition was added to the day's schedule. This was an afternoon program presented by the juniors in the Opera House. In 1899, when an unusually large class — 16 —

graduated, only the valedictorian and salutatorian gave talks.

Graduation activities gradually expanded. An engraved booklet was prepared for the 14 members of the Class of 1909, calling it the 31st annual commencement. Activities from May 14 to June 3 included class day and a senior class play in the school auditorium, a reception for seniors at the home of Superintendent and Mrs. F.M. Frush, a reception and banquet at the home of Mr. and Mrs. G. H. Wormhoudt, an alumni banquet at the high school building, baccalaureate at Second Reformed Church and commencement including an address by a guest speaker in the school auditorium.

The activities for the Class of 1909 were typical of graduation events during the 31 years that Frush was superintendent. Since that time, some of the activities and customs have changed.

For a few years, tickets to the annual graduation were sold.

Board minutes on June 16, 1892, report that the graduation expenses were \$67.43 and the amount received from the sale of tickets to the event was \$51.48.

Music has always been a part of the commencement program. Usually, one or more groups of high school students sang or played instruments. In the 19th century, Cox's Light Infantry Band sometimes was included on the program.

Commencement has been held in many places since the first one was held in the opera house at 611 Franklin Street. The event has been in churches, at Central College, in the east room of the old Webster Building, in the auditorium of the old high school at 712 Union Street, and in the gymnasium of the present high school. The Class of 1934, remembering how hot it was every year at commencement time, decided to have their graduation in Central Park. The next outdoor commencement was in 1978 in the new football stadium. The Class of 1979

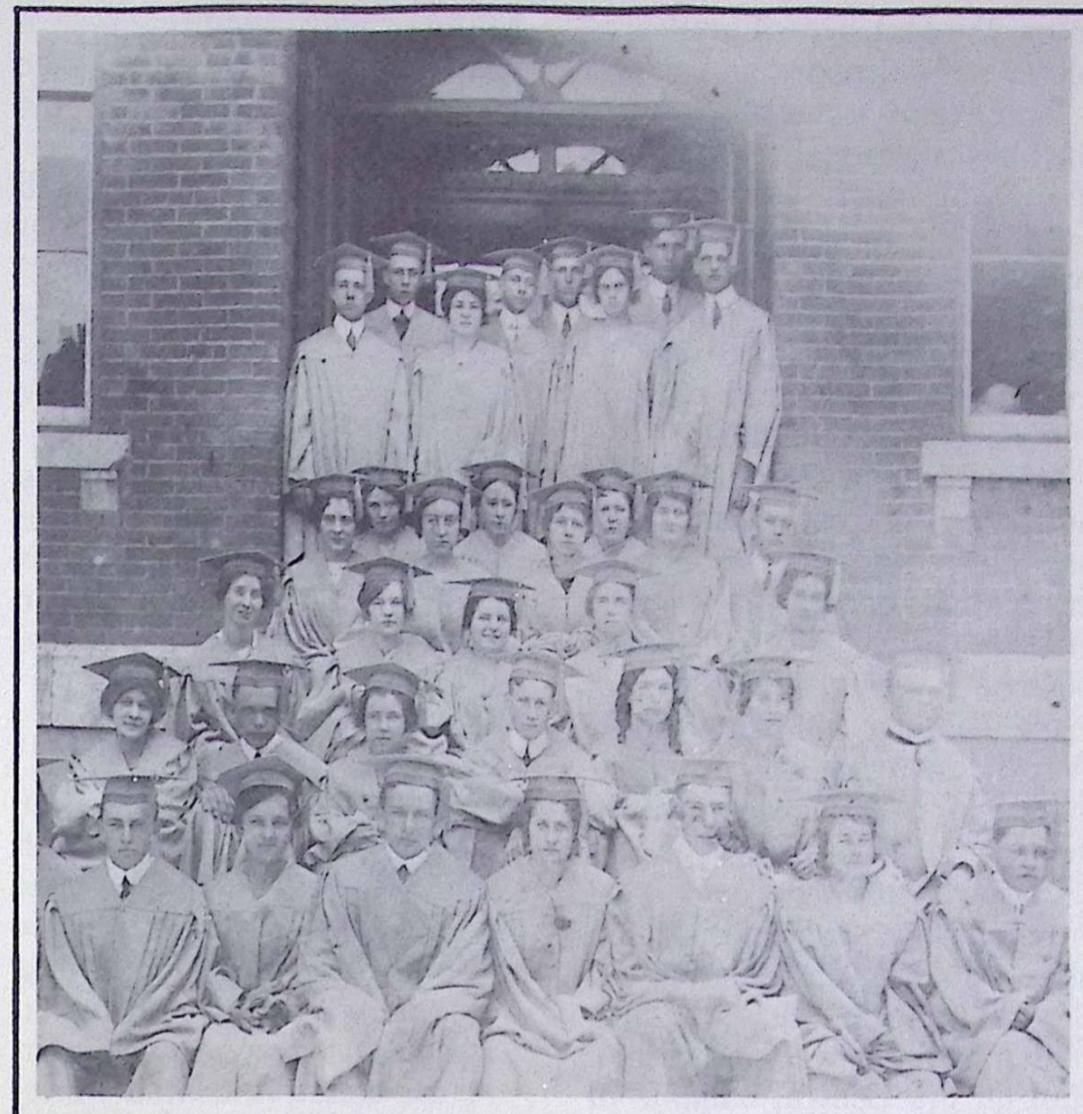
chose the same setting.

The graduates in the first classes bought new clothes for the special event. In 1914, the board voted to rent caps and gowns for the graduates to wear. A few years later, the school bought caps and gowns for the graduates with additional gowns bought to match the old ones as the number in the graduating classes increased. The gowns were stored in an area above the stage in the Union Street building. Many people recall the musty, dusty odor of the gowns as they were taken out of storage each spring.

In 1971, the seniors rebelled at wearing the musty, faded old gowns and arranged to buy some inexpensive paper caps and gowns. The class of 1972 voted against wearing caps and gowns, and each one appeared for graduation in whatever he wanted to wear — jeans, overalls, fancy new clothes, regular school-type clothing. Since that time, each graduating class has chosen a color, and each senior has bought an inexpensive cap and gown he could keep.

For the first quarter of a century that PHS had commencement programs, almost all of the graduates gave a talk. After that, the classes had guest speakers. The speakers were varied, including the state superintendent of public instruction, college students and professors and presidents, government officials, ministers, a public relations man, a YMCA official, and a judge. In 1978, the seniors voted to go back to the custom of having representatives of the class as commencement speakers. The Class of 1979 made the same decision.

The first graduation programs were expensive engraved booklets. Since that time they have been printed or mimeographed in a variety of styles. In 1961 one of the graduating seniors designed the cover, and



CLASS OF 1914 on the steps on the south side of Webster School. Some of the members of the class believe that they were the first class to wear caps and gowns for graduation.

a new tradition was established. When the class officers had a hard time choosing a winner from the designs submitted, two cover designs were used.

Until 1960, the graduation programs listed the class motto. Used more than once was Frush's favorite, "Why stay in the lowlands when the highlands are calling?"

Until 1964, the student who ranked highest in the class academically was named valedictorian, and the one ranking second was honored as salutatorian. Sometimes, these individuals gave talks at commencement, sometimes they had another part in the program, such as giving the welcome to the audience or a farewell from the class. In 1964 the school board voted to replace that system by recognizing all students who graduated with a 3.5 average as "graduating with high honors."

Baccalaureate became a part of the commencement tradition about 1900. It was the custom for the class to choose a minister as speaker; usually, at least one of the graduates was a PK (preacher's kid), and that father was invited to be the speaker. If more than one minister had a son or daughter in the graduating class, one would be invited to give a prayer. The Class of 1972 voted not to have baccalaureate, and it has not been revived since then. Most churches of the community recognize their graduates at a regular church service the Sunday before commencement.

Class Day began about 1910. Seniors, in a mixture of seriousness and fun, presented a class history, will and prophecy and musical numbers a few days before commencement. Later, this was expanded into an awards night, and still

later, the history, will and prophecy were dropped.

The senior class play was a part of the graduation week activities for many years. When Tulip Time grew into an event which dominated May activities, the senior class play was moved to an earlier date and no longer was considered part of commencement activities.

In the 1890's, a banquet was held for seniors and their parents a day or two before graduation or on the day of graduation. When the classes became bigger, only the seniors were invited. Soon after World War I, the tradition of a banquet and prom hosted by the juniors for the seniors began. Location of this big event varied — in a church basement, in the high school gymnasium or at Central College. The last junior-senior banquet was at Graham Hall on the Central campus in 1968. The next two years,

seniors and faculty had a special dinner together in the high school cafeteria, then the dinners were discontinued.

The Junior-Senior prom is still a part of spring activities at Pella High School. Juniors select a theme and work hard at decorating the cafeteria and student lounge for a memorable party in April.

A scrapbook kept by Wilma Van Doorninch Rempe, Class of 1924, tells about the junior-senior banquet held in the school gymnasium on Union Street when she was a senior.

She wrote,

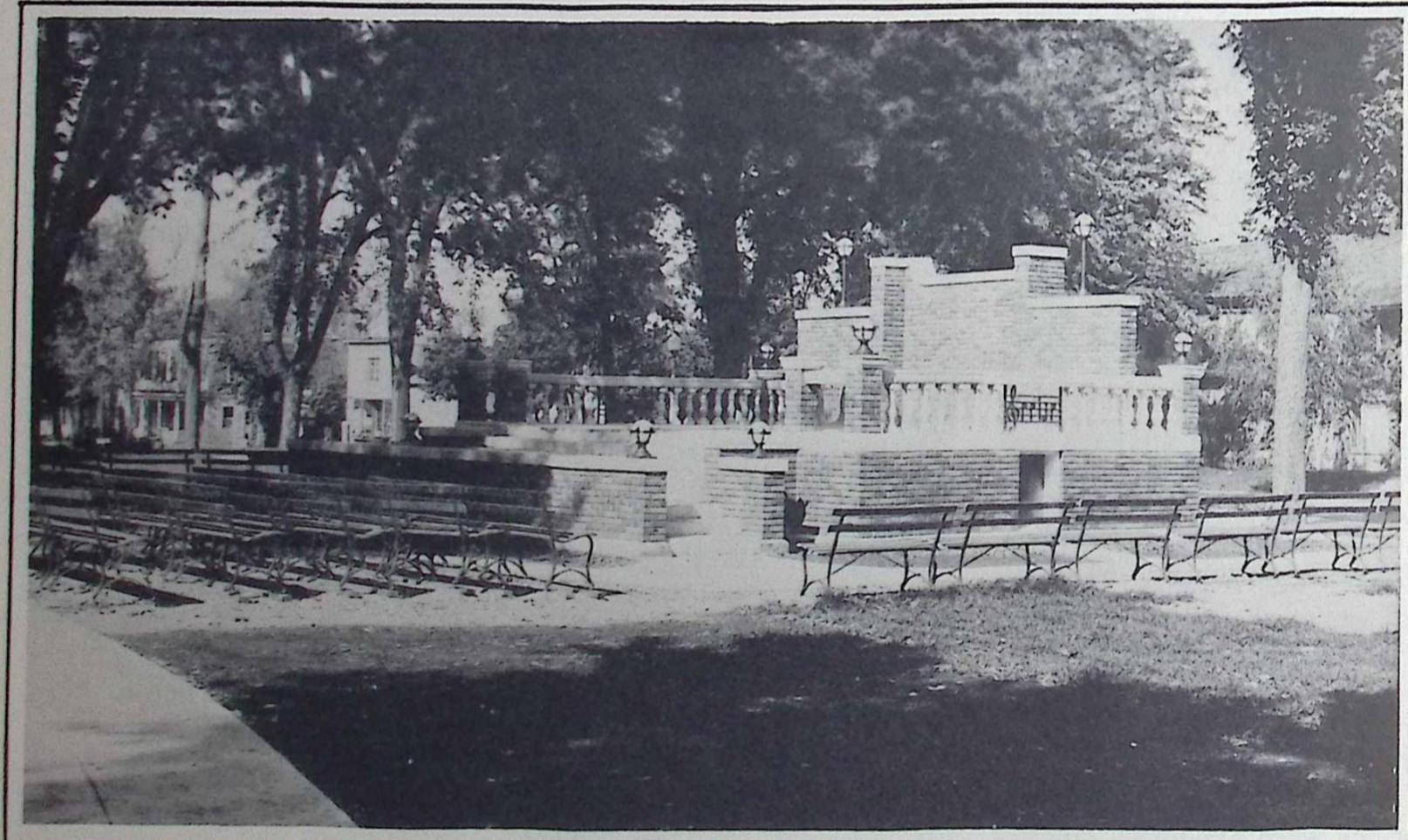
In the center of the gym was a small picket fence which surrounded a plot which contained the orchestra. Over the orchestra was a chandelier of colored lights. The tables were decorated in class colors (blue and white) and the senior class flower

(lily of the valley). In the center of each table was a mirror which contained miniature Dutch boats and windmills. At the east side of the room was a Dutch windmill.

The menu was fruit cocktail, chicken a la king, mashed potatoes, creamed asparagus, orange ice, rolls, jelly, pickles, sunflower salad, senior ice cream, junior cake and coffee.

Eighth Grade Promotion

During the years that many people ended their formal education when they completed the eighth grade, the promotion exercises for the eighth graders were important. Sometimes, the eighth grade certificates were presented on the same evening



BAND STAND on the north side of Central Park was the setting for what was probably the first outdoor commencement for PHS grads. It was during the record-breaking heat of the spring of 1934. The bricks from the band stand are now in the patio and wall behind the library of the Historical Village on East Franklin Street.

as the senior high diplomas. Other years, there was a separate ceremony for the eighth graders in the afternoon or on a different evening. These programs included a class will, prophecy and history and music plus an address.

Children who had completed eighth grade in the rural schools took county tests at the courthouse. Marion and Mahaska County each had a ceremony in the spring for all of the rural eighth graders in the county.

Usually, someone in the eighth grade composed words for a class song which the young graduates sang as a part of the program. The Pella eighth graders in 1941, using the tune "Bicycle Built for Two," sang this song:

Eighth Grade, Eighth Grade,
O, what a happy time!
It's thoughts won't fade,
But stay in our hearts subline.
It's memories linger always,
Of voices through the hallways.
Each girl and boy
Remember the joy
Of the many happy days.
Teachers, teachers,
You've helped us right along.



EIGHTH GRADE GRADUATION called for a new outfit and a formal portrait. This picture, taken in 1915, is Frances Mildred Vander Linden whose father, M. Vander Linden, owned the book store on the east side of the square where school children bought their textbooks.

And to you we dedicate this song.
We thank you for your kindness,

To you we humbly bow —
On this happy day
We all wish to say
We regret to leave you now.

First Graduation?

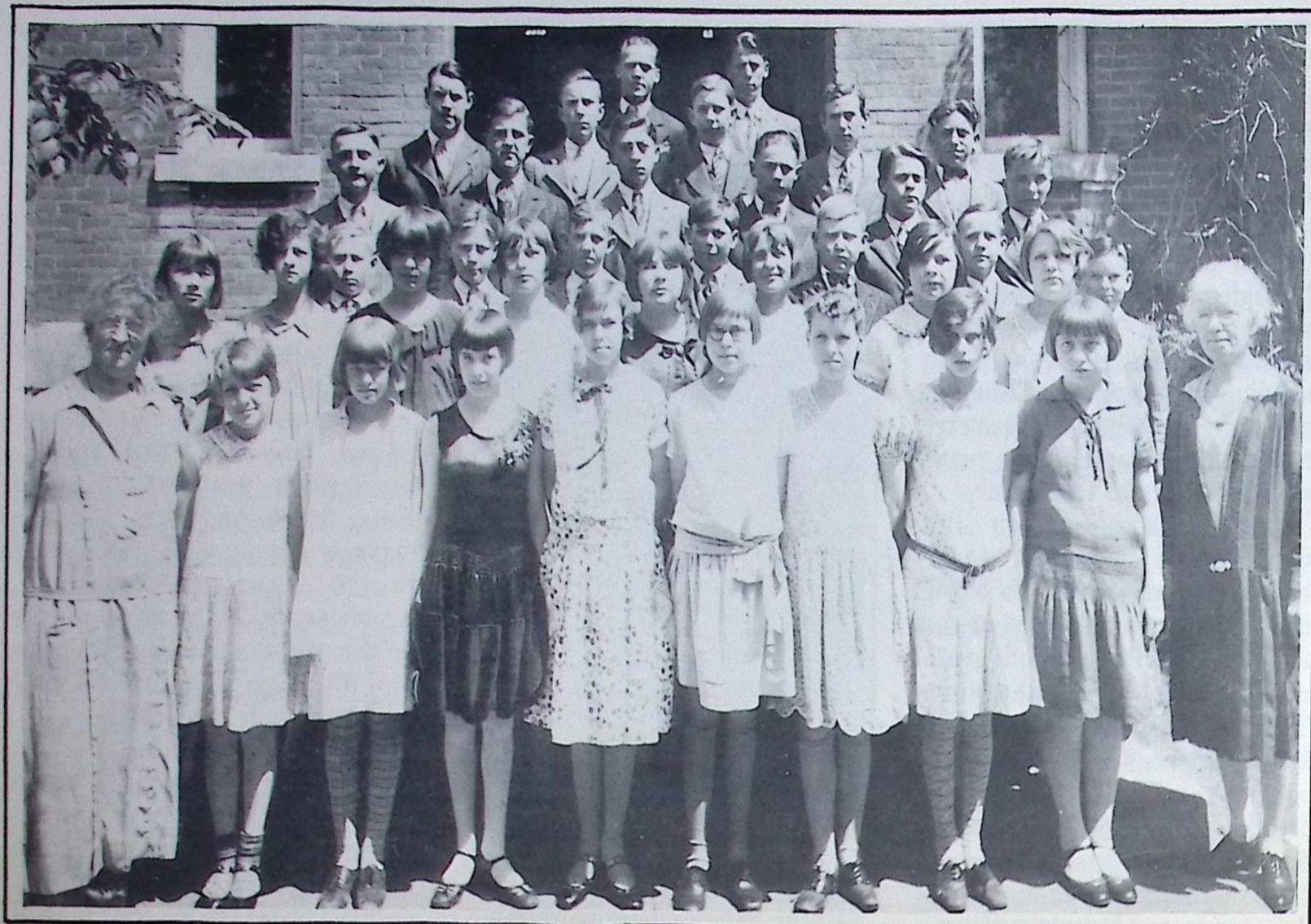
A graduation program printed in 1879 lists seven graduates and announces "First annual graduation." Graduation programs for the three following years call the classes the second, third and fourth ones to graduate. However, in 1883, when simple arithmetic would make the class the fifth one, the printed program calls it the sixth class. Three years later, the program tags the graduates as the tenth class, and two years after that in 1888, the graduates again are called the tenth class. The printed program for the class of 1889 calls the class the tenth one to graduate, but the program one year later announces the class as the 12th one. The number of the class is not mentioned again on existing programs until 1897 when the printed program identifies the class as the 19th class to graduate. After that any newspaper stories or graduation program notations which are used indicate that the first class graduated in 1879.

Jacob Cole wrote in the 1940's that he remembered being in the first class of Pella High School in the Centennial year, 1876. He recalled that there were seven people in his class, five girls and two boys. He graduated from Central College in 1880, which gives authenticity to his comments about finishing high school four years earlier.

A printed program for the "Decennial Meeting of Pella High School Alumni Association" lists May Edmand, Class of 1878, on the program to give a talk entitled "Prophecy." The



HOLDING THEIR EIGHTH GRADE DIPLOMAS and still dressed for the important occasion are Harry Kuiper, Elizabeth Aalbers, Francis Poortinga and Evalena Rus, Liberty Corner Rural School, 1928.



EIGHTH GRADE GRADUATES OF 1929 in front of Webster School. The teachers were Marie Lautenbach, left, and Dora Bootsma, right.

same program mentions Will Allen as a member of the Class of 1879 and Pearl Simpkins as a member of the Class of 1881 although neither of them is included on the printed graduation programs for those years. Twelve of the names and graduation dates on the program coincide with the class lists on existing programs. Four other people are listed as members of classes whose printed programs apparently no longer exist.

There is evidence that people finished high school between 1876 and 1879, but why did the printed 1879 graduation program call the class the first one? It is a puzzling mystery. Perhaps this is the reason that no high school graduation program after 1949 (called the 71st class) says which graduating class it is.

First Grad List

There is no single official list of PHS graduates. This list was compiled from several sources: old commencement programs, newspaper accounts, record books in the school office and class rolls. Names of the Class of 1887 are taken from the school board minutes for April of that year when the board passed a resolution approving the 16 people in the senior class for graduation.

Apparently, a total of 4,676 people have graduated from Pella High School, not including the Class of 1980. Since C. C. Cory, first superintendent of Pella schools who resigned in December of 1886, often commented that he had presided over the graduation of exactly

100 PHS seniors, that figure is used in computing the number of graduates, even though all of the class lists for the period are not available.

There probably are some inaccuracies. In some cases, a student's name is listed on the graduation program, then for some reason he did not graduate. In other situations, a student was not listed but later took correspondence courses or went to summer school and completed requirements. Sometimes, the handwriting in the old record books is illegible, making it necessary to guess at some of the letters in a name. Some names are spelled three different ways in the various sources.

Apparently, this is the first list of all Pella High School graduates compiled since the first class graduated.

Graduates of Pella High School

Order used for names on this compilation of graduates is the same as the source used for each class. Early graduates are in the order in which they spoke at commencement. Later classes are listed alphabetically, in the order in which they marched at commencement, or in the order they happened to be listed in a newspaper report or a school record.

Class of 1876

Jacob Cole

Six other people, names not known

1877

No evidence was found that any class graduated.

Class of 1878

May Edmand

Possibly there were other people in this class.

Class of 1879

(Names of graduates and titles of the essays they read at commencement on June 27, 1879.)

Halley Towne

The Will

Hattie Shaw

Our School Day Experience

Rieka Holst

The Class of '79

Ione Bowen

Ambition

Hattie Cory

No Excellence without Labor

Luella McCulley

Liberty of Thought

Louisa Viersen

We Are What We Make
Ourselves

Class of 1880

Willie Andrews

Birdie Cassatt

Frank Van de Ven

Jennie Rhynsburger

Joseph Swisher

Frank Stallard

Dora Kruidenier

Marion Henry

Minta Lovell

Class of 1881

Cyrenus Cole

Sadie Lacy

Linnie Long

Sarah Lovell

Maggie Hamilton

Adalea Simpkins

Nellie Cassatt

Minnie Edmand

Mary Rhynsburger

Carrie Snow

Ralf Baker

Martha A. Seary

Henry Compton

Jennie Rhynsburger

Nora Neal

Mary L. Hamilton

Anna Lacy

Herman Rietveld

Nellie Rhynsburger

Ida M. Ross

Ella L. Graber

1884

No list of graduates was found for this year.

1885

No list of graduates was found for this year.

Class of 1886

(Topic of each graduate's oration for the graduation program is listed with the name.)

Arie Van Maren

E Pluribus Unum

Lissa Mann

The Mill Will Never Grind
with the Water that Has
Passed

Josie de Haan

No One Liveth for Himself
Alone

Flora Taylor

Through Difficulties to
Heights of Grandeur

Hattie Bousquet

Longfellow

Luella Shaw

Then and Now

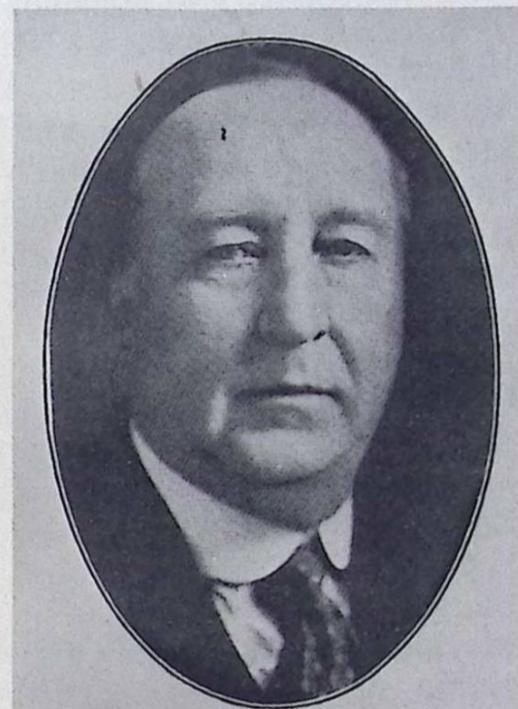
Albert van der Ploeg
Yesterday, Today and
Tomorrow

Rose Mann

The Mirror of Meditation

Lulu Viersen

Twist Ye, Twine Ye



CYRENUS COLE, only PHS graduate ever elected to the U.S. Congress.

Class of 1882

Samuel Cole

Anna DeBooy

Lillie Stewart

Petter Welle

A. G. Vandermeulen

Inez J. Bowen

Mary Blattner

N. O. Talbot

Carrie Edmand

Anna Beers

Class of 1883

Laura E. Blattner

Agnes Kuyper

Carrie Gould
 We as Actors
 Catherine Rederus
 The Flower Fades but Blooms
 Again
 Leonard Sterrenburg
 Power of Modern Inventions
 Mary Gould
 Bright Stars
 Lou Seary
 Know Thyself
 Anna Lovell
 Under the Lock
 Patrick Donley
 Turn over the Clod
 Ida Ramsey
 Modern Culture
 Minnie Forsythe
 Open the Gates
 Louie Donley
 Living Issues

Alumni Association

On June 18, 1886, a little less than 10 years after the first high school classes began at the new Webster School, an alumni banquet was held in the basement of First Reformed Church.

An engraved program in the archives at Central College shows that those attending listened to an address, vocal music, an essay, recitations and a prophecy. The alumni association continued for about a quarter of a century with a banquet for alumni scheduled as a part of graduation week activities each June.

Pella High School does not sponsor any sort of get-togethers for graduates other than the annual Homecoming each fall. But groups of graduates often make arrangements for parties a few years after their graduation. Some classes have never met again, some have regular reunions. A few classes have published bulletins to let others in the class know about births, marriages, deaths, changes of jobs and new addresses.

Class of 1887

Frank D. Cathcart
 Frank Rederus
 John De Kock
 Ed. G. Wheeler
 William Van Vliet
 Nora Boswell
 Minnie Houck
 Minnie Thomassen
 Mary Forsythe
 Sarah Kuyper
 Lulu Webb
 Jennie Cooper
 Alice Sexton
 Ida Andrews
 Flora Grant
 Nora Davenport

Class of 1888

Hubert Slob
 Margaret De Cook
 Etta Van Der Kamp
 Hester Verploeg
 Alice Van Der Zyl
 Anna De Haan

Class of 1889

John J. Thomassen
 Kate de Haan
 Sophia W. Lecocq
 Mary van Maren
 Marinus van der Linden
 Nettie van de Krol
 Lizzie Kempkes
 Bessie Kennedy
 Willie J. Rhynsburger
 Kittie Cameron
 Marie van der Zyl
 Carrie Beurkens

Class of 1890

Aach Van Zee
 Nora Cully

Class of 1891

Jozie E. Viersen
 Marie Lecoq
 Nora Cully
 Dora C. Rhynsburger
 D. W. Langerak

Class of 1892

Josie Mann
 Permelia Compton
 Andrew Wormhoudt
 Sadie Calhoun
 Sylvia Pratt
 Nellie Croll
 Leo Viersen

1893

No one graduated this year. The **Pella Weekly Blade** for June 13, 1893 reports:

Our city schools closed last Friday. As no graduating exercises were held this year, it seems rather quiet.

The minutes of the official School Board meeting for September 12, 1892, shows why there was no graduation:

Sup't Garber reported in regard to the A Class in high school that in his opinion it would be to the interest of the class to extend the time of their graduation one year, and to have no graduation class next June, and recommended its adoption. On motion of Mr. Van Spankeren, the recommendation of Prof. Garber was adopted.

Class of 1894

Dora Bootsma
 Jessie Brown
 Laura Fisk
 Carrie De Haan
 Clara Houch
 Frances De Pree
 Etta Belle Viersen

Record-keeping

Oldest official record of the Pella schools in the vault at the district's administration building is an attendance book that goes from the beginning of the spring term in March, 1869, to 1875. The large book, printed in

Rockford, Ill. in 1863, is entitled **School Register** with the subtitle, "Designed for Recording the Attendance, Punctuality and Deportment of Each Pupil Belonging to the School." The first teachers to use the book were C.C. Cory and William Post.

The earliest complete school record is a large red volume with the cover lettered in gold for the 1893-1894 school year. It lists all of the children who were attending Pella schools that year and their grades at the end of each month. Records from that time to the present are continuous.

Class of 1895

Louis Bousquet
William Versteeg
Cornelia De Haan
Sarah Kruidenier
Sarah Lautenbach
Gertrude Versteeg

Class of 1896

George Vander Zyl
Anna Barendregt
Agnes Bousquet
May De Pree
Eleanor Hamilton
Cleo Kelley
Alsie Ross
Josie Thomassen

Class of 1897

Gerrit Bos
James De Pree
Bertie Van Vliet
Agnes De Vries
Cornelia Rhynsburger
Amelia Rhynsburger
Katie Verheul
Dirkie Wormhoudt

Class of 1898

Henry Rhynsburger
Fred Sheehy
Margaret De Haan

Jennie De Haan
Lottie Dykstra
Elsie Elliot
Etta Elliot
Myrtle Elliot
Maud Kimmell
Marie Lautenbach
Fannie Smith
Minnie Veenstra
Orrissa Veenstra
Anna Wormhoudt

Class of 1899

Motto — Slumber not in the tents of your fathers. The world is advancing. Advance with it.
Simon H. Douwstra
Elizabeth Gosselink
Huber William Hurt
Theodore H. Kaldenberg
Helene J. Kruidenier
Anna Lea Rhynsburger
Herman Thomassen
Wilhelmina van der Linden
Jennie Magdalene Vanderzyl
John Vanderzyl
Loveda Leola Van Doren
Herbert Elroy Van Doren
Elizabeth Van Nimwegen
Martha Lena Verheul
Gerrit H. Waechter
Le Roy J. Young

Class of 1900

William Fowler
Meyer Langerak
Henry Thomassen
Herman Veenstra
Katie Boland
Gertrude Buwalda
Mable Fisk
Winnie Fowler
Marie Stegeman
Jennie Ulrich
Anna Vander Linden
Blanche Vander Linden
Lydia Varen Kamp

Class of 1901

Benjamin De Haan
Harry Renaud
John Van Vliet
Fannie Van Der Wildt

Arice Vennschoten
Nellie Van Vliet

Class of 1902

Elizabeth Gezel
Jeanette Gosselink
David Kruidenier
Mary Varenkamp
Herman Van der Linden

Class of 1903

Bert Baron
Mary Clark
Clara Kramer
Leona Reuvers
Charles Thomassen
Edna Ver Heul
Leona Vander Linden
Christina Vander Zyl
Bessie Vander Zyl
Carrie Van Vliet
Maggie Van Zee

Class of 1904

Francis Cole
Elizabeth Grandia
Gertrude Gezel
Cornelia Hasselman
Cora Hoogenakker
Margaret Johnson
Bert Kempkes
Carey Mann
Cora Thomassen
William Ter Louw
Lyman Van Houten
Artie Vander Linden

Class of 1905

Carrie De Haan
Nina Elliott
Lewis Kruger
Nellie Varen Kamp
Clarence Vander Linden
Henrietta Verheul

Class of 1906

Ray Bousquet
Henry Carson
Hattie Cox

Charles Croll
Myrtle De Bruyn
Bertha Dykstra
Edmund Paul
Martin Pardekooper
Lucy Roelfson
Lulu Schakel
Pearl Manley
Margaret Van Nieuwaal
Carolyn Gezel

Class of 1907

Queenie Adams
Libbie Cox
Harry De Reus
Bess De Vries
Joe Fassen
Marion Gosselink
Todd Herman
Ella Hynes
Cornelia Hospers
Jeanette Hospers
Teunis Klein
Clara Mann
Sarah Maasdam
Gertie Renaud
Harriet Rietveld
John Vande Kieft
Nicholas Vande Kieft
Ben Van Nimwegen Jr.
Alta Vander Linden
Samuel Van Vliet
Madge Vander Zyl
James Ver Hey

Class of 1908

Helene Bootsma
Letitia Brunia
Henrietta Brunia
Marie Vander Bussie
Wiliana Catlin
Lucile Gaass
Louise Gaass
Dora Hynis
Laura Kramer
Lottie Koopmans
Freda Reuvers
Teressa Sheehy
David Vander Ploeg
Fred Vander Zyl
Carl Ver Steeg
Bernard Vander Linden
Minnie Van Nieuwaal
Herny Van Spanckeren

Class of 1909

Nellie Den Adel
Dora Van Donselaar
Cornelia De Gues
Anna Grant
Edward Eysink
Glen Grundman
Edward Gezel
Catherine Johnson
Peter Kuyper
Ray Vander Linden
Rose Smorenberg
Elizabeth Verheul
Edith Warren
Dick Van Zante

Perfect Attendance

Pete Kuyper, who graduated from PHS in 1909 may be the only person who went through the Pella schools from first grade through high school and never was absent. He had one tardy on his record when he was in third grade. The conscientious schoolboy became the founder of Pella Rolscreen.

Class of 1910

Gertrude Benninck
Cornelia Bouma
Dureth Bouma
Leona Berg
Cornie Dykstra
Ralph Grundman
Anna Grundman
Franklin Keables
Nellie Niels
William Rhynsburger
Joe Rhynsburger
Ansel Reuvers
Mary Magdalene Sheehy
Veda Tice
Alfred Wormhoudt
Overkamp Wormhoudt
George Ver Steeg

Class of 1911

Harry DeCook

Sarah Gosselink
Fred Gezel
Ruth Grundman
Yella Herema
Antoinette Niels
Hattie Neyenesch
William Onstine
Clarence Renaud
Nellie Smith
Fred Thomassen
Anna Vander Linden
Bertha Vander Linden
Margaret Vogelaar
William Verros

Class of 1912

Horace Buckingham
Bess Berg
Will Bruria
Gerard Gosselink
Anna Hynes
Henry Kuyper
George Lankelma
Gerrit Vogelaar
Mabel Warren

Class of 1913

Fred Fassen
Anthony Hospers
Leona Hunt
Ella Johnson
Arthur Kaldenberg
Casper Lautenbach
Marion LeCocq
Catherine Paardekooper
Fred Rhynsberger
Elizabeth Rietveld
Benjamen Synhorst
Roy Vander Linden
Mabel Van Donselaar
Gerard Van Houwelingen
Will Van Sittert
Paul Van Zante
Joe Boyd
Janet De Vries

Class of 1914

Joseph Bogaard
Edward Den Adel
Eugene Dennis
Henry Edmund
Herman Lankelma
Ed LeCocq
Harold Sack

Nicholas Vander Ploeg
George Van Gorkum
James Van Vliet
Jacob Van Wyk
Andrew Ver Ploeg
Paul Thomassen
Lester Welle
Nellie Benninch
Helen Brooks
Cassa Clark
Ruby Clarke
May Cole
Nannie Dillon
Bessie Dielman
Adele Van Drimmelen
Bessie Vande Garde
Jeannette Gezel
Margaret Grundman
Wilhelmina Koelman
Sarah Lautenbach
Helen Neyenesch
Wilhelmina Van Nimwegen
Wilma Rietveld
Frances Sheeley
Artie Sonnenberg
Junella Thomassen
Mary Vander Linden
Helen Warren
Clara Waechter

Class of 1915

Harry N. Awtry
Joe Vanden Berg
Clarence Buerkens
William C. Ver Ploeg
Samuel Ver Steeg
Paul De Wit
William Vande Voort
Florence Beatrice Boland
Sara Alice Brunia
Irene Carolyn Le Cocq
Helen Grace Van Gorp
Jane Gosselink
Edna Jane Grant
Laura Verrips Den Hartog
Emilena Hoksbergen
Sarah Arvilla Keables
Gertrude E. Klein
Helen Marie Kuyper
Estelle Elizabeth Kuyper
Josephine Fear Maasdam
Ruth Reona Phillips
Anna Marie Phillips
Edna Ver Ploeg
Jessie May Vanzee

Frustrations of Historians

A story in an out-of-town newspaper in 1952 about the new Webster School reported: "Supt. C.C. Buerkens said he attended school there (at Webster) and was in the first class to graduate from the old building erected in 1876." Buerkens was not in the school's first class; he was in its last class in 1915.

Class of 1916

Cornelius Van Buren
Walter Van Doorninch
Walter Halbert
Louis Kuyper
Edward Vander Linden
David Van Rees
Arthur Renaud
Alfred Synhorst
Carl De Vries
Marion Wormhoudt
Ray Vander Waal
Ethel Rovaart
Lois Brooks
Cunera Van Emmerick
Arvena Synhorst
Hatti Van Veen
Florence Van Zee

Class of 1917

Motto — Be square.
Raymond L. LeCocq
Anna Brummel
Ruth Amelia Grandia
Dora Esther Grandia
Verna Loretta Halbert
Verna Joy Hendricks
Agnes Elbertha DeKock
Katherine De Koning
Robert Kaldenberg
George Kaldenberg
Fay L. Lankelma
Paul Lautenbach
Oren S. Van Nieuwaal
Mark Rillahan
Gerald L. Rysdam
Bess Van Spanckeren
Pearl Steinkamp

Jeanette Synhorst
Harold O. Thomassen
Gertrude H. Varenkamp
Warner Vandervoort
Cornie B. Welle

Class of 1918

Will De Bruyn
George Gosselink
Martin Vander Heiden
Marion Kuiken
Dick Vander Ploeg
Harold Ver Steeg
John Visser
Benjamin Van Zee
Herman Zinberg
Gerald Dykstra
Esta Allen
Caroline Brummel
Marguerite Cole
Violet Colyn
Marguerite
Phillipina Koelman
Anna Vander Linden
Grace Lisk
Dora Van Ommen
Bessie Pippel
Bertha Ulrich

Auto Accident

Andrew Roorda, Class of 1918, probably was the first PHS student killed in a car accident. This note is by his name in the official record book: "Killed in auto accident three miles east of Pella, March 27, 1918."

Class of 1919

Walter Butts
Fred Dykstra
Henry Grundman
J. B. Van Hemert
Melvin Van Houwelingen
Leroy Kimmell
Harold Klein
Harry Neyenesch
Sarah McAlister
Gladys Buerkens

Freda Carpenter
Frances Vander Linden
Grayce Pennekoek
Henrietta Ploette
Nellie Popma
John Rillihan
Marie Roorda
Dora Roorda
Mollie Van Skike
Margaret Vennstra
Junella Van Zee

Class of 1920

Motto: Only a commencement
Ray H. Boland
Madeleine Calhoun
Harriet L. Frush
Nicholas Gosselink
Delwin S. De Haan
Lucy Hoksbergen
Gradus S. De Kock
Magdalene E. Kuyper
Fred W. Lautenbach
Harold Van Maren
Marion Vanden Oever
Henrietta Plette
Lucille Plette
Bert Vander Ploeg
Helen M. Vanderpol
Fred Van Rheenen
Angeline Roorda
Arthur Sels
George Ulrich
Margaret J. Vande Voort
John Vander Wert
Anthony G. Van Zante
Jennie Van Aastrum

Class of 1921

Fred Van Doornick
Alfred Johnson
Earl M. Klein
Lee Lautenbach
Fred Van Nieuwaal
Gerald Paardekooper
Ethel Bloem
Mary Bruins
Frances W. Le Cocq
Cornelia Gosselink
Janet Den Hartog
Jeunella Van Houwelingen
Wilma Vander Linden
Cornelia Mol
Leota Schakel
Helene Slob

War Casualties

A notation by the name of Freeman Lankelma in the pages of the record book kept for the class of 1920 from the time they were freshmen says, "As far as is known, the only Pella High School boy to die in France in the World War. He enlisted in Coast Guard in Spring of 1918."

The 1946 Duchess was dedicated to five PHS graduates who died during World War II. They were Lt. Dan Ray Meulpolder, killed at Rabaul in 1944; Rudy Schilder, seaman second class, killed in a plane crash in Arizona in 1944; Lt. (jg) Gerrit H. Wormhoudt, killed in a plane crash in Virginia in 1944; Private First Class Virgil Ray Veldhuizen, killed on the island of Leyte in the Pacific in 1944, and Technical Sergeant Arlie H. Cummings, killed in the Philippine Islands in 1945.

Christine Ver Steeg
Erma M. Visser
Rossetta Walraven
Artie Van Zee
Sophia Van Vark

Class of 1922

Oris Allen
Tillie Beerends
Jennie Bruinekool
Paul F. Bruins
William Butt
Lucille Cochrane
Gertrude Dykstra
Leonard Elscott
Ila Fox
Olive Fox
Lucile Gaass
Florence Grandia
Dora Van Haaften
Peter De Haan
Ray De Haan
Henry DeKock
Sam Kuiken
Julian Kuyper
Johanna Lefers

Anna Meyer
James Mowe
Gertrude Neyenesch
Verle Ramsey
Beulah Roorda
Georgia Roorda
Gertrude Sels
Dorothy Sybenga
Robert Vanderwal
Marion Vennstra
Wilma Vande Voort
Marvin Vander Waal
Henry J. Walkotten
Cornelius Vander Wert

Class of 1923

Harry Beyer
Harold Bloem
Russel Droz
John Den Hartog
Edward Hoeven
Henry Huizinga
Gerrit Popma
Harvey De Prenger
Lawrence Van Rheenen
Marie Beyer
Elizabeth Bruinekool
Jeanette Brummel
Inez Buwalda
Marguerite Le Cocq
Wilma Van Gorp
Alice Vander Heiden
Jeanette De Jong
Sophia Lautenbach
Bessie Vander Ploeg
Lola Renaud
Harriet Toom
Wilda Vanderpol
Jeanette Van Vark
Margaret Wynia
Elizabeth Van Zante
Avis Van Houweling
Marie Vander Haar

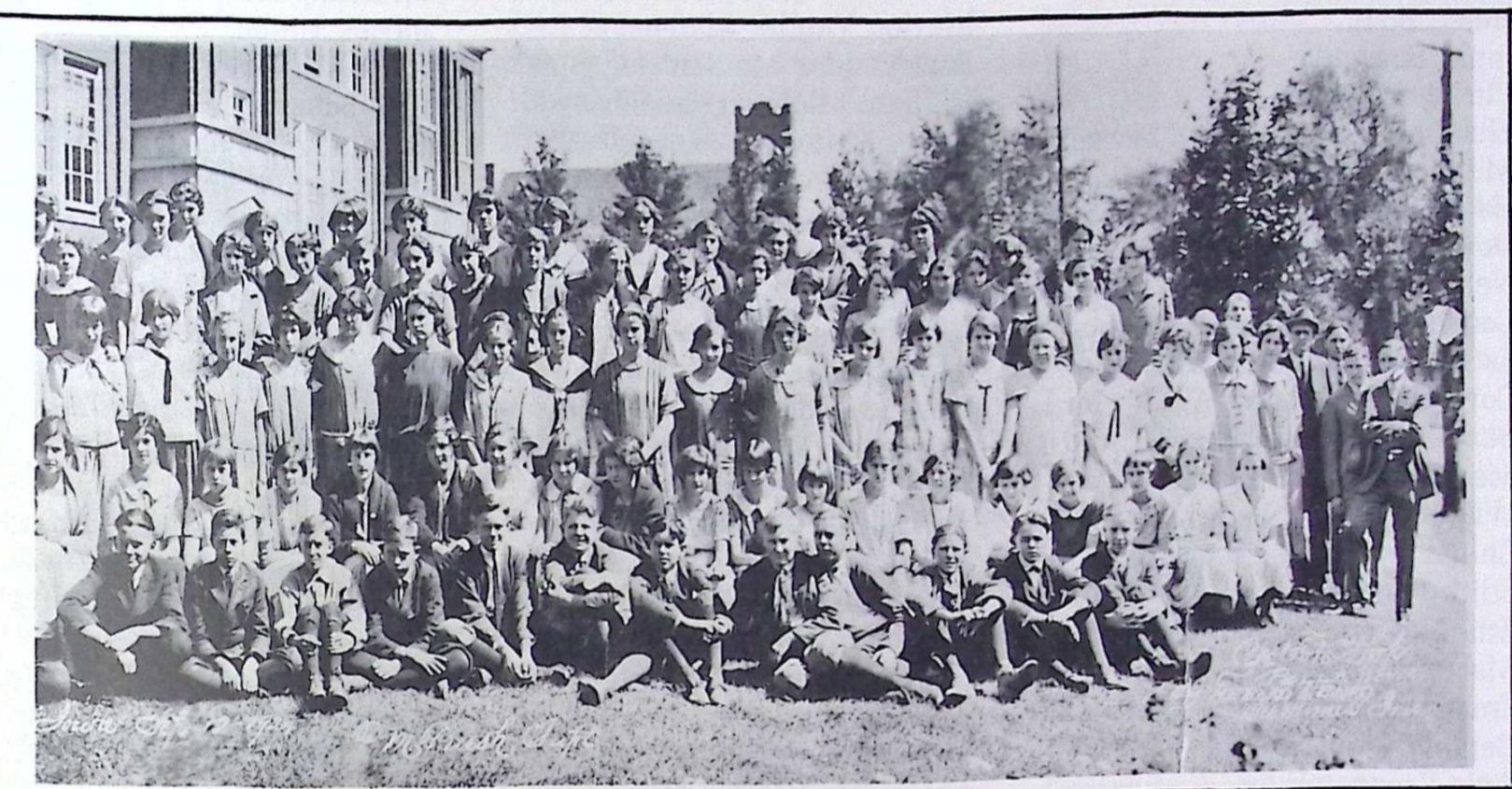
Class of 1924

Leonore Ballengee
Mary A. Butt
Cathryn Cochrane
Viola C. LeCocq
Anthony Ernest De Cook
Wilma Van Doornick
Francis E. Dykstra
Gertrude E. Dykstra
Gertrude W. Firth
Marian J. Frush

Nina J. Gosselink
Murry Leroy Grandia
Will Den Hartog
Logan B. Hendricks
Marion F. Hesselink
Harry W. Hesselink Jr.
Francis C. Huyser
Cornie Jaarsma
Chris W. Kersbergen
Esther H. Kuyper
Edith G. Kyger
Laurence Lautenbach
Clara Vander Linden

Verna V. Liter
Mildred E. Mowe
Clarence Ross Van Nieuwaal
Henrietta Vanden Oever
Lillian Mary Payne
Arie C. Rempe
Rolfus I. Sack
Edith M. Sedrel
Anna W. Tysseling
Bertha M. Veenstra
LeRoy Veenstra
Willard De Winter
A. Mansford Ver Steeg

Normal Training Graduates
1924
Jessie Vanden Berg
Nellie Brack
Minnie Colyn
Jeannette Dekker
William Engbers
Minnie J. Van Gorp
Minnie J. Kolenbrander
Bessie M. Morris
Mabel D. Morris
Dena Ver Steeg
Sybil R. Terpstra



PHS STUDENT BODY, 1924.

Class of 1925

Henry Beckering
Robert Beyer
Bert Boat
Raymond Brom
Fred Dekker
William Jansz
Jean Kuyper
Peter Lubberden
Herman Nollen
Donald Waechter
Gerrit Wormhoudt
John Rowenhorst
Marion Van Nimwegen
Helen Boat
Janet Bosveld
Christine Bruins
Elizabeth Butt
Minnie Dylhoff
Helen Gaass
Dorothy Gambell
Nellie De Haan
Leonore Helt
Esther Kaldenberg
Cora H. Kruiseman
Bertha Plette
May Plette
Willena Plette
Charlotte Vander Ploeg
Edith Roorda
Ethel Roorda
Marie Schultz
Emma Sybenga
Beulah Veenstra
Avis Vroom

Leona Bogaard
Anna De Cook

Class of 1926

Herbert Buerkens
Adrian Bruins
Richard Bruins
Louis Le Cocq
Clarence Van Dellen
Keith Fox
Kenneth Fox
Robert Gosselink
Dick Kolenbrander
Walter Koopman
Marion Vander Linden
Earl Vander Meiden
William Michmershuizen
Harry Mitten
Stephen Van Roekel
Renaud Rysdam
Reuben Thomassen
Morris Vogelaar
Jess Vriezalaar
John Vander Werff
Florence Boot
Margaret Cochrane
Frances Douwstra
Ruth Helen Fennema
Janet Grootveld
Cornelia De Kock
Elizabeth Hesseling
Ruth Lautenbach
Hilda Palmquist
Mabel Palmquist
Antoinette Vander Ploeg

Nancy Ruth Renaud
Grace Terpstra
Wilma Vander Voort
Elizabeth Wesselink

Class of 1927

Walter Arens
Ernest Borr
Marion Buwalda
John Van Dyk
Alfred Grundman
Paul Kiser
Clarence Vander Meulen
Charles Mitten
Alonzo Ver Ploeg
Virgil Schakel
Maurice Van Willigen
Gerrit Vander Wal
Emmet De Vries
Elizabeth Beyer
Myrtle De Haai
Lucile Den Adel
Margaret Billin
Helen Kruisman
Dorothy Van Ommen
Faye Porter
Jeanette Rowenhorst
Jeanette Reus
Frances Roose
Florence Van Sittert
Gladys Van Zante
Elizabeth Van Zante
Jeanette Van Zee
Ruth Van Zee



ALL OF THE STUDENTS AND FACULTY of Pella High School are out front for the annual

Class of 1928

Paul Blommers
Caspar Bruins
William Van Doorninck
Martin Heerema
Roland Klein
Elmer Nollen
Harris Vande Noord
Anthony Nunnikhoven
Arthur Van Roekel
Richard Tysseling
Harold Walraven
James Wisse
Louis L. Brand
Ella Van Barren
Marjorie Baron
Gertrude Benzink
Elizabeth Blommers
Gertrude Bruinekool
Elma Le Cocq
Gladys Fennema
Francis Gaass
Ruth De Geest
Agatha Gosselink
Lois Grandia
Lorel Hendricks
Anna Ver Hey
Emma J. Kaldenberg
Mabel Kaldenberg
Sara Klyn
Wilma Van Ommen
Marie Smith
Kathryn Popma
Elizabeth Vander Haar
Frances Ver Steeg

Dorothy Uitermark

Class of 1929

Dierk Bientema
Dan Beyer
Arthur Bosch
Edward Van Dillen
Verle Ver Dught
Kenneth Dykstra
Orville Dykstra
Elmer Dykhoff
Herman Douwstra
Jacob De Haan Jr.
Bert Jausz
Lester Jelsma
Howard Karr
Willard Langerak
Edward Vanden Oever
Edward Vander Ploeg
Robert Rouwenhorst
Luverne Trigg
Lewis Vander Wilt
Delios Van Zante
Robert Renaud
Eugene Ver Ploeg
William Kolenbrander
Donald Wallace
Leona Arens
Bernice Van Baren
Edna Beyer
Alice Bosveld
Alida Mae Van Duren
Ruth Dykstra
Alma Grundman

Mabel De Haan
Artie Hasselman
Margaret Hiemstra
Winifred Hesselink
Juanitta Iddings
Blanche Karr
Erma Koopmans
Ruth Vander Linden
Esther Ver Meer
Elizabeth Michmershuizen
Antoinette Rietveld
Olive Schakel
Kathryn Schultz
Alida Stursman
Henrietta Thomassen
Mabel Van Zante

Class of 1930

Motto: The road called Toil leads to the City called Success.
Guelph E. Aschenbrenner
Yvonne E. Aschenbrenner
Amy Beatrice Beckering
Irene F. Bogaard
Mabel Van Brogen
Everdene Bruins
Mildred Louise Cole
Evelyn Crum
Margaret Van Dellen
Irene H. Durham
Bernice R. Dykstra
Dorothy Ann Grant
Musa E. Graves
Gertrude A. Hankamp



picture in 1929. Similar shots were taken for several years.

Bernice V. Hendricks
Margaret Hoeksema
Elva May Van Houweling
Ruth A. Van Howeling
Margaret I. Kiser
Wilma E. Mathews
Pearl E. Palmquist
Dorothy Eunice Payne
Ruth S. Pietenpol
Marjorie E. Van Roekel
Adelaide Sybenga
Pauline Vermeer
Ruth V. Visser
Gertrude Verrips
Marie Wanders
Florence De Wit
Ethel E. Van Zante
Tillie Van Zante
Arthur H. Den Adel
Robert C. Baron
Herbert A. Bosch
Leland K. Croll
Fred N. Dykens
Raymond B. Gosselink
Ralph Huizinga
Clarence In't Veld
Herbert M. Klaaren
Albert W. Langerak
Verlan Porter
Earl Van Rees
Charles B. Stone
Henry W. Vande Voort
Charles de Winter

Class of 1931

Arthur Den Adel
Donald Heerema
Purl Van Hemert
James Van Hemert
Donald Hesselink
James Kolenbrander
Marion Vander Linden
Ralph Ver Meer
Hannah Allen
Roelfphine Bukker
Dorothy Cook
Helen Groetveld
Jeanette Van Heukelom
Josephine Van Heukelom
Mabel Hiemstra
Helen Huyser
Cora Jansz
Erma Kaldenberg
Jennie Keuning
Virginia Klein
Dorothy Kool
Harriet Kuyper
Ruth Langerak

Helen Vander Linden
Gertrude Van Nieuwaal
Anna Mae Vande Noorde
Bernice Van Ommen
Henrietta Van Roekel
Vera Sadler
Johanna Schakel
Pearl Shinn
Lenita Uitermarkt
Sara Wormhoudt
Helen Zigeler Buerkens

Class of 1932

Motto: Not to be served, but to serve.

Leona Beintema
Agnes Bensink
E. Marareta Vanden Berg
Ruth Josephine Deur
Elsie Van Dusseldorf
Gretchen E. Fennema
Leonora G. Gaass
Jennie Gosselink
Geraldine R. Gosselink
Leta Mae Grandia
Esther I. Grootveld
Gertrude M. Vande Haar
Edna A. Hackert
Florence S. Hollebeek
Hilda Lavina Klein
Mildred Irene Klein
Martha C. In't Veld
Mary Ruth Jansen
Mary Elizabeth Liggett
Lucile N. Ver Ploeg
Dorothy Rozenberg
Irene Roose
Johanna Rouwenhorst
Martha Gertrude Taylor
Viola May Vroom
Ruth Van Vliet
Irma Mae Verwers
Mildred Verhey
Eva Mae Van Wyngaarden
Frances L. Watters
Mary Viretta Van Zante
Fermer Wesley Adair
Gerald Van Arkel
Phillip Hector Bevan
Louis Bosveld
Earl Breuklander
Kenneth G. Crum
Donovan E. Dykstra
Donald Douwstra
Donald U. Elscott
Alvin E. Evers
Herman Lawrence Fennema
Robert G. Goedhart

Dirk G. Groeneweg
John F. Hollebeek
William A. Kelderman
Donald F. Klein
Andrew William Klyn
Alfonso Kersbergen
Cornelius Kersbergen
Henry Hospers Kuyper
John G. Lasschuit
Gerard Lubbers
Tunis G. Ver Meer
Myron Nollen
Alfred R. Vander Ploeg
Donald G. Renaud
Rudolph Ulrich
Charles D. Van Vliet
Ray Vander Wilt
Homer K. Vander Zyl

The Inspector's Descendants

Although Dominie H. P. Scholte, the first school inspector for Pella, was interested in establishing schools for the new town, he did not send his own children to the Pella schools. His children had tutors and studied at home in the European tradition for some families. Most of his grandchildren were tutored at home although some of them attended grade school in Pella before going to the Central College academy or other schools for their high school years.

The first descendant of Pella's first school inspector to graduate from Pella High School was Franklin Keables, his grandson, who was a member of the Class of 1910. Franklin's sister, Sarah Arvilla Keables, was in the Class of 1915.

The first of his great grandchildren to graduate from PHS was Leonora Gaass Hettinga who was in the Class of 1932. Her brother, Peter, was in the Class of 1934.

Five of the Dominie's great great grandchildren graduated from PHS, Pamela, Janice, Karen and David Gaass and George Hettinga.

None of the Dominie's descendants are in the Pella schools now, but Sarah Elizabeth Jennings, born in 1977, and Nicholas Gaass Jennings, born in 1979, children of Terry and Karen Gaass Jennings who live on Route 4, probably will be enrolled in the Pella schools in a few years.

Class of 1933

Robert Avery
Dave Bevans
Ralph Bogaard
William Buwalda
George Cummings
Zylvanus Dykstra
Frank Eeling
Earl Grandia
Raymond Vander Heiden
Raymond Van Heukelom
George Hieren
Albert De Jong
Norman Langerak
Albert De Kock
William Vander Linden

Jack Rhynsburger
Roy Roorda
Arnold Schippers
Richard Sels
Roy Van Vark
Clarence Vogelaar
Elmer Vander Wal
Earl Van Zante
Peter De Boer
Mary Irene De Cook
Kathryn Crum
Wilma Van Dort
Vera Gaass
Emeline Gezel
Ruth Goad
Hazel Van Hemert
Anna Hiemstra
Leona Hiemstra
Florence Hollebeck
Marie Huisman
Edna Huizinga
Margaret Jansen
Ada De Jong
Margaret Keuning
Gertrude Laschuit
Junella Van Maanen
Gertrude Niermeyer
Frances Van Rees
Agnes Van Rheenan
Mildred Rozenberg
Helen Vander Wal

Alma Wilson
Esther De Wit
Martha Zylstra
Mary Goad
Grace Van Dellen
Bonnie Youngman
Vera Sedrel
Ruth M. Vriezlaar

Class of 1934

Robert Avery
Joe Van Arkel
Harold De Bruin
Earl Cornelius
Vernon Van Ee
Clarence Van Essen
William Gosselink
Andrew Hoeksema
William De Jong
Robert Klein
Laurence Liggett
Harold Ver Meer
Nicholas Ver Meer
Ralph Menning
George Vande Noorde
Wayne Pos
Raymond Van Roekel
John Sybenga
Logan Vander Zyl



THE SENIOR CLASS PLAY was an important part of the graduation schedule in 1934 when this picture of the cast of "The House by the Side of the Road" was taken for the yearbook. In the back row is Mae Plette (the director), Bill De Jong, Vern Van Ee, John Sybenga and Thelma Ulrich. In the front row are Wilma Van Gorp, Wayne Pos, Lucille Hollebrands, Bob Klein, Ralph Menning and Lawrence Liggett.



BEFORE THE DAYS OF SCHOOL ANNUALS, the seniors' portraits were combined into one picture each spring.

Anna Ver Beek
Wilma Bensink
Martha De Boer
Esther Bosch
Marie Brand
Bernice Carter
Grace Van Dellen
Wilma Van Gorp
Elizabeth Van Heukelom
Henrietta Hoksbergen
Lucille Hollebrands
Margaret Vande Kieft
Bonnie Klein
Marie Paltzer
Arlene Schakel
Anna Slocum
Thelma Ulrich
Ruth M. Vriezlaar
Ella Ver Meer

Grada Vande Voort
Cordelia Van Zante

Class of 1935

Clarence Den Adel
Godfrey Bevans
Arnold Bogaard
Fred Bosveld
Peter Gaass
Robert Heerema
Robert Hoekesma
Donald Van Houweling
Junior Hospers

Arthur Huyser
Henry Klein
Marvin Klein
John Koelman
Mennekas Paltzer
Ivan Sadler
Robert Sadler
Max Schakel
William Slobe
Gary Vermeer
Bernard Vogelaar
Arthur Wisse
Carrol Wilson
Elmer De Winter
Arthur Wormhoudt
Kenneth Van Zee
Herbert Vander Zyl
Helen Bogaard
Kathryn Braafhart
Edna Ver Dught
Virginia Fowler
Adella Grandia
Janet De Jong
Alberta De Joorda
Viola Kaldenberg
Bernice Langerak
Mildred Vander Linden
Wynona Vander Linden
Kathryn Lubbers
Jeanette Mol
Bernice Ver Ploeg
Eleanor Ver Ploeg
Elizabeth Rietveld
Kathryn Van Veen
Frances Verwers
Jean Van Vliet
Dorothea Vogelaar
Jeanette Vander Wal
Pauline Witzenberg
Elizabeth Hoksbergen
Margaret Vande Kieft
Helen Vos

Class of 1936

William Vander Beek
Elmer Boat
Jean Cook
Junior Dykstra
James Evers
George Gezel
Herman Hagaus
Henry Van Haaften
Clarence Vander Linden
Elmer Liter

Donald Menning
Delmar Needham
Ernest Schippers
Franklin Verrips
Herbert Wormhoudt
Ralph Vander Zyl
Nellie Barnett
Helen Vanden Berg
Freda Den Burger
Phyllis Carter
Mary Le Cocq
Florence Donn
Lillian Crum
Anna Engbers
Maxine Gaass
Ruth Heerema
Alda Mae Van Heukelom
Pauline Hoogenakker
Dorothy Van Howeling
Marie Jansz
Almira Klein
Ruth Koelman
Eva Mae De Kock
Margaret Vander Linden
Jeanette Van Ommen
Dorothy Van Roekel
Bertha Rouwenhorst
Margareta Slob
Vee Van Vark
Edith Vos
Wilma Vos
Ardith Wilson
Bernice De Witt
Leona Witzenberg
Margery Witzenberg
Wilma Van Wyngarden
Freda Van Zante
Mildred Vander Zyl

Class of 1937

Paul Boertje
Robert Bosveld
Arlie Cummings
Edward Goad
Albert Gosselink
Melvin L. Hartley
John Hoogenakker
Ralph Huisman, Jr.
Clarence Langerak
Esley Langerak
Lester Vander Linden
Edward Du Pree
Walter Roorda
George M. Sherlock
Arthur H. Tysseling
Ray V. Tysseling
Albert De Wolf
Chester C. Zylstra
Arthur J. Rus

C. E. Vis
Florence Den Adel
Florene Den Adel
Lucile Vanden Baard
Virginia Van Gorp
Sophia Heeren
Elizabeth Huyser
Josephine Huyser
Martha De Joode
Janet Klyn
Joan Kuyper
Lucile Kuiper
Betty Lankelma
Nettie Messamaker
Lucile Paltzer
Leataanne Vander Pol
Darlene Robertus
Mary Louise Renaud
Betty M. Reis
Leona M. Roorda
Agnes Vos
Ota de Winter
Doris Eileen Clark
Audrey Shaw
Jacob M. Brom
Sara Bakker

Class of 1938

Roy Vander Beek
Theodore De Boer
Harold Den Besten
David Harter
Harold Van Essen
Carroll Hollebrand
William Vande Kieft
Elmer Ver Meer
John P. Ver Meer
Robert Menning
Alfred Renaud
John Van Roekel
Warren Van Sittert
John Vande Voort
Herbert Vander Waal
Kenneth McDonald
Jack Sixsmith
Mary Jane Baron
Viola Helen Boot
Leona Breuklander
Florence Hackert
Ruth De Heer
Mary Jane Van Hemert
Kathryn Herny
Anna Hoeksema
Melba Hoekstra
Anna Keuning
Johanna Keuning
Anna Joyce Klein
Bernice Klein

Emily J. Kuyper
Dolores Lankelma
Bernice Leyden
Bernace Vander Linden
Velma De Prenger
Bernice De Reus
Sara K. Schakel
Leona Schilder
Dorothy Vander Waal
Elizabeth De Bruyn
Leota Van Etten
Dorothy Reynolds
Wilma Vanden Hoek
Betty Van Vliet

Class of 1939

William Edward Black
Willis J. Dieleman
Hugh Oren Dunn
Clarence W. Flietstra
Norman F. Van Gorp
Howard Burtness Grundman
Gerald Tunis Den Hartog
James E. Huyser
James Kerr
Paul Edwin Klein
Stuart Kuyper
Virgil Vander Linden
Floyd Mathes
Dan Ray Meulpolder
Mark De Prenger
Ralph Henry Van Rheenen
James Lawrence Roorda
Leslie W. Sadler
Tunis Sents
Philip Sybenga
Marion Thomas
David Mark Thomas
Samuel E. Turner
Ira Veldhuizen
John H. Van Vliet, Jr.
Everett Van De Voort
Lester Vander Wilt
Ralph Wisse
Earl De Wit
Gerald Marion Van Zante
Glen Van Zee
Othella Adelaide Van Baale
Martha Van Berkum
Alta Marie Beyer
Frances De Bruin
Leila Burggraaf
Anna Grace Clark
Sheila Emily Drost
Wilma J. Van Duren
Louise Helen Gezel
Beulah Maxine Grandia
Lora Marie Grandia
Helen Viola Den Hartog

Ruth Huizinga
Emily Frances Hiemstra
Virginia Martha Kempkes
Beatrice Vande Kieft
Helen Klyn
Marjorie Louise Lautenbach
Melva Mae LeCocq
Lucille Dianna Olivier
Gerlene Anna Ozinga
Dorothy Vander Ploeg
Wanda Maxine Rebertus
Johanna Myrtle Van Roekel
Evelyn Mae Rouw
Margaret Ann Varenkamp
Maxine Van Vark
Jeanne Veenman
Leona J. Vos
Lora Ruth Vander Waal
Evalena Wynberg

Class of 1940

John Den Adel
Edgar Van Arkel
Henry Boertje
Virgil Boot
Leonard Booy
David Braafhart
Chester Bricker
Ralph De Cook
Henry Van Duren
Ivan Gezel
Jacob De Haan
Fred Heerema
Philip Herny
Joe Hoeksema
Willard Kaldenberg
Everett Klein
Herman Vander Linden
Howard Vander Linden
Hopkins Mitchell
John Vander Ploeg
Hubert Postma
Raymond Robus
Wayne Schakel
Warren Schreiner
James Sents
Gene Stientjes
Earl Turner
Robert Van Vark
Melvin Van Veen
Virgil Veldhuizen
Willis Vande Voort
Jacob Vos
Virgil Warner
Charles De Wild
Carl De Wit

Raymond De Wit
Joe D. Woods
Gene Van Zee
Melvin Van Zee
Birdy Beintema
Rosetta De Bruin
Ruth Van Donselaar
Juliana Flietstra
Norena Grandia
Beulah Hays
Margery Van Heukelom
Thressa Van Heukelom
Janet Hol
Edna De Jong
Dorothy June Langerak
Cora Mae Vander Linden
Sara Rose Vander Linden
Henrietta Ver Meer
Evelyn Palmquist
Alice Postma
Betty De Prenger
Gladys Van Rheenen
Florence Robinson
Grace Rozenberg
Eileen Sadler
Barbara Van Sittert
Corena Synhorst
Dorothy Synhorst
Evelyn Tysseling
Margie Veenman
Wilma Vander Wilt
Mary Van Zuuk
Freda Zwank

Class of 1941

Marvin Bartlett
Ralph Vander Beek
Wayne Vander Berg
John Van Berkum
Allan Brummel
Ernest Brummel
Jack Dillon
Howard Halverson
Raymond den Hartog
Arvin Hoogenakker
Norman Van Houweling
Paul Van Houweling
William H. Huyzer
Max Kuyk
Charles Lautenbach
Carl Vander Linden
Lewis Palmquist
Dan De Prenger
Gordon Rugaard
Jacob Schuring
Philip Visser
Earl Vogelaar

William Vriezelaar
John Vander Waal
Chester Williams
Gene Wormhoudt
Lloyd Van Zante
Loren Vander Zyl
Carol Ann Beintema
Mildred Bishop
Willa Mae De Bruin
Edith Brummel
Sara Buwalda
Bertha Carson
Carol Carson
Lola Carter
Tana Mae Van Gilst
Mildred Gosselink
Cora Marie Heeren
Freda Hoeksema
Marie Hol
Janet Vander Kieft
Anna Mae Langerak
Kathryn Lautenbach
Freda Mathes
Gertrude Vander Ploeg
Joyce Ver Ploeg
Phyllis Verploeg
Anna Ruth Roorda
Clara Roorda
Harryette Schilder
Beatrice Schippers
Norma Jean Schreiner
Marcia Ver Steeg
Jayne Veeman
Cornelia Verschuure
Maxine Vander Veer
Lois Van Vliet
Mary Jane Vande Voort
Johnita Vos
Joyce Vriezelaar
Luella Vander Waal
June Weyers
Freda Van Wyk
Marjorie Van Wyk
Julianne Flietstra

Class of 1942

Howard W. Borgman
Jerry D. Carpenter
Melvin Van Duren
Clyde L. Evers
Alvin Goemaat
Cornie Van Gorp
Thomas B. Grundman
Leo James Jonker
James D. Kempkes
John Raymond Klootwyk
Harold R. Vander Linden

Norman Vander Linden
Irwin Lubbers, Jr.
John H. Vermeer
Leslie E. Needham
Semon J. Sandven
Mark Schakel
Tuenis O. Tait
Everett J. Trueblood
Stanley Ver Ploeg
Robert P. Vroom
Marion James Witzenburg
Dick D. Van Zante
Edward Glenn Van Zante
Clarence Van Zee
Lester E. Van Zee
Mae Lucile Den Adel
Helen G. Boertje
Leona T. Blom
Marjorie Fae Boot
Virginia J. Carpenter
Carol E. Cook
Jean Dingeman
Blanche L. Van Donselaar
Dorothy Alice Ver Dught
Ruth Ann Van Essen
Dorothy Maxine Fleck
F. Jean Van Gorkom
Joy Hackert
Dorothy Jean De Haan
Florence Rozella Hays
Florence Van Helden
Arvena Huyser
Harriet J. Klein
Ruth C. Klein
Jeannette Vivian Lankelma
Jeanette B. Leydens
Mary L. Meulpolder
Blanche De Prenger
Francene G. De Prenger
Nadine Merle Reed
Jean Renaud
Donna Mae Rietveld
LaVerne Ruth Rietveld
Jessie Linette Rugaard
Martha Van Scheikhoven
Freda Marie Schippers
Wilma Slot
Emma Elizabeth Veenschoten
Elva F. Vander Waal
Elizabeth L. Van der Wal
Eva Mae Vanderwilt
Dorothy Witzenburg
Theresa Wormhoudt

Class of 1943

Donald W. Andrew
Robert J. Black
Stanley Borgman

Melvin Brummel
Eugene T. Kennedy
F. Wayne Koder
W. Doyle Koder
Gene L. Langerak
Darel G. Mensch
Dexter D. Schakel
Rudolph J. Schilder
Abe J. Synhorst
Darl E. Vander Ploeg
Robert J. Van Roekel
Ralph L. Vander Waal
Lester A. Terlouw
Robert F. Van Vark
Earle H. Vanderzyl
Carl B. Vogelaar
Melvin Vos
Vera Darlene Baughman
Dorothy Jo Bean
Marjorie G. Blom
Lenora Jean Blom
Alice Pauline Buwalda
Virginia Mae Clark
Madeleine Diekema
Mary Esther Van Haaften
Ada Marie De Haan
Claire Ione Van Breemen
Betty Louis Kool
I. Lorraine LeCocq
Esther Marie Mol
Wilma Faye Pearson
Clarice Jean Rempe
Norma Jean Schakel
Marjorie L. Schultz
Mary Jane Toom
Estellene H. Visser
Loretta J. Visser
V. Orleath Vogelaar
Martha Lee Vande Voort
Marjorie M. Vanden Baard
Eleanor M. Vos
Betty Jean Vriezelaar
Margaret Lucile De Wild
June L. De Zwart
Madeline G. Vanderzyl

Class of 1944

Paul De Jong
Joyce Prins
Lawrence Van Zante
Betty Crum
Robert Van Hemert
Clifford Paltzer
Wayne Lubberden
Donald Van Haalen
Ralph Vander Linden
George Carson
Dwight Mathes

Marion Witzenburg
Melvin Pothoven
Lela Belle Jarman
Minnie Rose Van Zante
Betty Van Zee
Keith Tait
Martin Visser
Gerald Stravers
Leon Kaldenberg
Ralph Heerema
Herbert De Prenger
Jenella Leydens
Naomi Vroom
Phyllis Ver Steeg
Joan Ver Meer
Ruth Van Ee
Susanna De Jong
Viola Beyer
Erma Roorda
Nadine Schakel
Lucille Van Zee
Artus Vande Voort
Ruth Tysseling
Valda Halverson
Effie Heemstra
Ione Lankelma
Faye Van Roekel
Joyce Roorda
Evelyn Vos
June Van Gorkom
Thelma De Goey
Phyllis Van Ee
Helen Buwalda

Gold Braid

Gerald Joseph Synhorst, Class of 1944, is the Pella High School graduate who attained the highest rank in the Armed Forces. After graduation from PHS and the U.S. Naval Academy at Annapolis, Maryland, he rose to Admiral in the United States Navy.

Class of 1945

William Gerrit Vanden Berg
Wilbur Glen Van Dusseldorf
Philip Bert Kempkes
John William Lankelma
Keith Paul Lautenbach
Paul John Lepeltak
Erskine William Olcott
Robert Poppen

Marion Lee Van Rheenen
Paul Sents
Gerald Synhorst
Glen Van Vark
John Henry Vriezelaar
Alvin Vander Wilt
June Louise Allen
Bonnie Flo Buerkens
Lucille Dorothy Buwalda
Norma Cummings
Georgia Joanne Van Gorkum
Dorothy Hoeksema
Julianne Ruth Van Houweling
Mary Lou Kamerick
Karna Colleen Klein
Norma June Klyn
Lora Ruth Klyn
Marcia G. Kuyper
Richarla Alida Lautenbach
Julia Marilee Logan
Esther Van Maaren
Lorraine Meulpolder
Marian Jean Morrow
Edna Lucille Nugteren
Mattie Wilma Olivier
Neola June Owens
Edna Lavonne Schippers
Gladys Nina Schuring
Patricia Joyce Shaw
Freda Faye Vander Streek
Verla Mae Vander Streek
Rose Marie Toom
Arlyn Joyce Verploeg
Mary Elizabeth De Vries

Dick M. Stravers
Willis M. Tait
John Vander Wert, Jr.
Eugene De Wild
Robert L. Van Zante
Doris Lee Armstrong
Joyce Maxine Borgman
Joyce Evelyn De Bruin
Ruth June Brummel
Margaret A. Buwalda
Betty Jean Cummings
Betty Lorene Dingeman
Johanna A. Van Dyke
Edna Jean Goemaat
Beverly Den Hartog
Bernice Heerema
Tryna Van Houweling
Bernace Jaarsma
Cleo Joy Kuyper
Jean Kathryn Leu
Dolores Jean McConeghey
Christina Muilenburg
Theresa W. Naaktgeboren
Dorothy M. Needham
Betty Notting
Junella Faye Olivier
Janette Van Peursem
Joyce Elaine Sadler
Bernice Leora Van Steenis
Cora Edna Thomassen
Lora Ann Toom
Joan Ulferts
Lila Van Vliet
Jo Ann Vande Voort
Lenora Wilma Van Zante
In Absentia:
Lawrence Van Nimwegen
Ira Earl Cornelius

Class of 1946

LeRoy Baughman
Chester Beintema
James Preston Durham
Carl Gaass
Peter H. Van Gorp
Eugene E. Den Hartog
Ira John Hesselink, Jr.
Jean A. Ver Heul
Albert M. Van Houweling
Glenn De Kock
Kenneth E. Vander Linden
Paul R. McGee
Gerrit H. Vander Meiden
Charles Lee Vander Ploeg
Mark O. Vander Ploeg
Warren Ver Ploeg
Warren De Prenger
Huber Rebertus
Ray A. Van Roekel
Ira De Ronde
Raymond J. Rouw

Sixty-seventh Annual Commencement Exercises

Pella High School

Pella, Iowa

Class of 1945

Thursday Evening, May Seventeen

High School Auditorium

Baccalaureate Service

Sunday Evening, May Thirteen

First Reformed Church

COMMENCEMENT CALENDAR

April 20—Class Play "Tish," H. S. Auditorium, 8 p.m.
May 4—Junior-Senior Banquet, Second Ref. Church, 6:30 p.m.
May 11—Junior-Senior Picnic, 1:15 p.m.
May 14—Class Day Assembly, H. S. Auditorium, 2:30 p.m., Parents invited.
May 14—Senior Cap and Gown Photo, South Balustrade, High School, 4:00 p.m.
May 15—Eighth Grade Promotional Exercises, H. S. Auditorium.
(Please retain this program for all events)

PROBABLY EVERY GRADUATING CLASS had a printed program to mark the occasion. Some programs are in the archives at Central College, some are in homes of Pella, many are in files at Pella High School. There is no complete file of the programs. The high school's collection of graduation programs begins with 1941.

*Pete Van Ooyen
Glenn Koopmans
Cornelius Van Berkum*

Class of 1947

Gordon Nesbit
Beverlee Nihatt
Colleen Renaud
Marvin Rumbaugh
Robert Lautenbach
Sheldon Vos
Wilma Van Zee
Sidney Vander Waal
Bertha Van Weelden
Betty Van Heukelom
Edna Ter Louw
Delmar Petersma
Ruth Vogelaar
Ray Van Dyke
Myrtle Evers
Loran Vanden Oever
Wilma Van Gilst
Ralph Van Dusseldorp
Rosemary De Bruyn
Stan Boertje
Uella Dingeman
Harold Van Maanen
Darlene Halverson
Logan Vander Leest
Alice Van Hemert
Jack Fisk
Bernice Dykstra
Fred Hoeksema
Joan Stientjes
Bill Koopmans
Kathryn Tukker
Marjorie Van Zee
Max Hoeksema
Dean Sadler
Betty Toll
Betty Vander Beek
Virginia Groendyke
Bob Evers
Tonetta Keuning
Lloyd Vander Streek
Susan Grundman
Gene Van Zee
Dorothy Schakel
Kenneth Kramer
Donna Russell
Ray Vander Wal
Eunice Rempe
Marvin Ver Meer
Janie Van Sittert
Marvin Tysseling
Beverly Thomassen
Clarence Van Zee
Phyllis Van Hemert

Melvin Rumbaugh
Shirley Hurr
Robert Pothoven
Erma Vander Horst
Gladys De Geus
Nancy Bogaard
Gerald Koopmans
Ruth De Jong
Lee Vander Linden
Special diplomas to service men:
Don J. Van Gorp
Donald Toom
Robert Budding
John Sheppard

Class of 1948

Wilbur Boot
Fred Brummel
Leland Van Ee
Edward Goemaat
Gerald Van Houweling
Ray De Jong
Ivan Kaldenberg
Harry Koopmans
Arvan Menninga
Marvin Nunnikoven
Mason Alcott
Wilard Olivier
Robert Pippel
Ray Pope
Howard De Prenger
David Prins
Melvin Schippers
Kenneth Vander Veer
LeRoy Veldhuizen
James Van Vliet
Gene Voyce
Loren Vander Wert
Wilfred Willemsen
Dirk Van Zante
Keith Van Zee
Irene Bloodsworth
Norma Van Dyke
Thelma Grandia
Geraldine Van Haaften
Betty Den Hartog
Lois Eysink
Clara Hasselman
Joyce Ver Heul
Gladys Klein
Florence Van Maanen
Beulah Van Maaren
Mary Jane Menninga
Vivian De Nicola
Bonnie Oastrum
La Velma De Penning
Betty Joan Rempe

Shirley Vander Wert
Artie Ruth Van Wyk
Marcella Vander Wilt
Dorothy Van Zante
Marcie Valster
Bertha Rozendaal
Donna Schakel
Gertrude Steenhoek
Pauline Tysseling
Norma Vis
Sally Vriezelaar

Class of 1949

Marvin Vanden Berg
Andrew Van Berkum
John Jewell Cook
Dan Crosby
James H. Dingeman
Billy J. Hart
Marvin P. De Heus
Carl W. Hiemstra
Melvin D. Hugen
Henry A. Vande Kieft
H. Richard Lautenbach
Duane Vander Linden
Gene Petersma
Dick Ver Ploeg, Jr.
Marion Fred Ray
Lawrence H. Rook
Kenneth Dale Schakel
Leo G. Sels
Robert D. Sheets
Jack Thomassen
Daryl E. Walker
Harry Weyers
Dale Van Wyk
Don Van Wyk
Dixie Lee Balstad
Marjorie Louise Bensink
Dorothy Ruth Blom
Nola Ruth Boot
Joyce Mae Buwalda
Irene Jeanette Cade
Norma Jean Ver Dught
Lorraine De Haan
Beulah Mae De Heer
Ardith Van Houweling
Mildred D. Hugen
Audrey Ruth De Jong
Lenora Jane Klein
Marcia Delores Klein
Peggy Ann Leu
Marcia Joy Van Maanen
Betty Irene Petersma
Elaine Jean Vander Ploeg
Erma Van Roekel
Thelma Irene Van Roekel
Louise Maxine Rysdam

Dolores Joann Swank
Marilyn Joy Tanis
Betty Jeanne Van Veen
Alma Ruth Vink
Bonnie Vande Voort
Barbara Blanche Vander Werff
Jeanette June Vander Werff
Helen Joyce Van Zee
Betty Marcile Van Zee
Janice Ann Van Zomeren

Class of 1950

Arvin John De Cook
Larry Wendell
Elisabeth Ann Kempkes
Donna Jean Veenstra
Ellen June De Cook
Carl Ver Steeg
Nancy Blanche Van Maanen
Glenn Eugene Borgman
Donna Joy Den Burger
Carroll Lee Vis
Mildred Van Der Veer
Dale Vos
Eleanor Joy Anson
Edwin P. Buwalda
Leona Mae De Raad
Robert John De Vries

Cordelia June Vander Horst
Verle J. Rinehart
Willa Maxine Zickel
Gerald Irving Angove
Patricia Irene Vriezelaar
Philip H. Mentink
Pauline Steenhoek
Harry Dale Pippel
Geraldine ReAnna Klein
Carol Rosalie Ver Steeg
Audrey Fae Roorda
Raymond Lee Den Adel
Tomie Ikuta
Violet Ruth Kuiper
Robert Milton Hackert
Bonnie Lou Thomassen
Virgil Wayne Boertje
Bonnie Ruth Van Zomeren
Willard Dale Bosveld
Betty Ann Brummel
Ronald F. Morrow
Marilyn Jane Verploeg
James Van Houweling
Marie Arlene Van Hal
Bruce Quist Buerkens
Helen Mae Van Zante
Marion Toom, Jr.
Donna Mae Van Halen
Roland Harris Eysink
Ruby Maxine Bezemer
Elmer E. Van Dusseldorf

Mary Louise Armstrong
Donald Eugene Tuinstra

Class of 1951

Judith Allen
Darlene Gayle Braafhart
Norma Jean Bricker
Priscilla Irene Dingeman
Marlene Ruth Dykstra
Sara Anne Gosselink
Phyllis Joan Hasselman
Viola Mae Hasselman
Maxine Ruth Hiemstra
Delores Ann In't Veld
Zelda Ruth De Jong
Wilma Helene Keuning
Lou Ann LeCocq
Charlot Joyce Leydens
Dorothy Faye Ver Meer
Marilla Clare Vander Meulen
Ruby Jean Miedema
Evalena Olivier
Patty Diane Rysdam
Charlotta Ruby Schakel
Dorothy Jean Schakel
Marlene Sels
Dorothy Mae Toom
Enid Tysseling
Vivian Valster



AT COMMENCEMENT FOR THE CLASS OF 1953, the girls' glee club gave their last performance of the school year.

Marilyn Van Veen
Phyllis Van Wyk
Louise Faye Van Zee
Marvin L. Anderson
Logan S. Andeweg
Kenneth W. Van Den Berg
Ivan E. Den Besten
Carl E. Boat
Arvin G. Boot
Ronald Jean De Bruin
Joe K. Brummel
Richard Lee Cook
Vincent Michael Duffy
Marion C. Van Gorp
Ronald L. Grandia
Spencer D. Grond
Sidney Judson De Haan
Robert Willis Van Hal
Edwin E. Horman
Alvin Van Houweling
Douglas L. Jansz
Dale L. Jarman
Perry G. Klein
Harold L. Leydens
Andrew Lubbers, Jr.
Ray G. Meulpolder
Wendell James Ver Ploeg
Jerry De Prenger
Leo M. Renaud
Vernon L. Trueblood
Orville L. Tysseling
Gary E. Vriezelaar
Norman W. Nieuwsma

Roberta Mae Waits
Elsie Mae Van Wyk
Anna Mae Van Zante
Roberta Ann Zeigler
Darlene Van Zomeren
Junella Mae De Zwarte
Wallace E. Anderson
Norman L. Van Den Baard
Donald Lee Blom
Paul R. Blom
J. Carroll Boot
Vernon Duane Boot
Daniel Duane Dingeman
Arnold Glenn Dykhuis
Virgil E. Dykstra
Murl Grandia
Cornie W. Den Hartog
Don Van Hemert
Dick H. Ver Heul
Wm. H. Van Houwelingen
George Ikuta
Wayne A. Kelderman
D. Jack Klein
John Paul Klyn
Arthur Glenn Kuiper
Fred William Lautenbach
Reuben N. Ter Louw
Dick Mentink
Stuart L. Meulpolder
Ronald D. Van Nieuwaal
James Leroy Nugteren
Richard Vanden Oever
Henry K. Rempe
Robert Leroy Vander Schel
Logan E. Van Sittert
Robert L. Sowles
Elliot Alan Tanis
Gary G. Thomassen
Leo Van Vark
Merlin John Van Vark
Donald D. Verros
Henry Vande Voort
John E. Vroom
Elvin Dean Vander Werff
Vernon Ray Wielard

Ellen Louise De Geus
Joan Ruth Geurts
Nancy Ruth Groenendyke
Anna Mae Hagan
Betty Ann Vander Hart
Shirley A. Hoeksema
Ramona Irene Hudson
Marlene Joan In't Veld
Frances A. De Jong
Naomi Ruth Kaldenberg
Norma Jean Kuiper
Shirley Ann Leydens
Eileen Joyce Petersma
Arlene Joan Ver Ploeg
Ruth Louise Riddle
Betty K. Steenhoek
Rosemary Stump
Arlene Joan Tuinstra
Dorothy Marlene Vos
Marilyn Ruth Vos
Dolores Jean Van Waardhuizen
Dolores Vander Wilt
Helen Laverna Van Zee
Jimmie Lloyd Ballenger
Charles LeRoy Beintema
Dale LaVerne Bogaards
Robert Lee Borgman
John James Brower
Donald Buyert
Roy Glen Van Dyke
Marion Edward Van Ha.
Rudy Lee Van Hemert
Harold LeRoy Hiemstra
Robert Dale Klyn
Ralph Ver Ploeg
Donald Gene Rebertus
Melvin LeRoy Toom
Verlan Dale Uitermarkt
Harry L. Vander Veer
John Wm. Van Wyhe
Alvin E. De Wild
Marvin Eugene De Zwarte
Wilda Marcille Vander Zyl

Class of 1952

Junella June Aalbers
Mary Alice Buwalda
Barbara Jean Buyert
Edwarda Joan Grandia
Arvena Ruth Ver Heul
Betsy Ann Hoksbergen
Mary Ruth Kempkes
Peggy Marilyn Kuyper
Pauline Sophia Lautenbach
Frances Evelyn Van Maanen
Greta Joyce Palmquist
Phyllis Nadine Renaud
Patricia Ann Rietveld
Shirlie Jean Van Roekel
Beulah Lorraine Roorda
Berniece Evelyn Ruby
Jo Ann Schagen
Rosa Lee Schakel
Gertrude Mae Sels
Beulah Rose Vander Streek
Edith Mae Sytsma
Mary Eunice Van Vliet

Class of 1953

Norma Jean Angove
Pauline Ruth Atkins
Eleanor Joyce Vander Beek
Dorothy Mae De Cook
Marilyn Ann De Cook
Doris Jean Dockendorff
Betty Lou Eeling
Dorothy June Van Ekeren
Martha Jane Van Ekeren
Patricia Van Englehoven
Bernice De Geus

Class of 1954

Marilyn Andeweg
Shirley Vanden Baard
Ann Balstad
Gwendolyn Vanden Berg
Elsie Blom
Phyllis Butler
Judy Cook
Sandra Cummings
Sally Ver Dught
Katie Van Ekeren
Carolyn Fisher
Jo Ann Van Haaften
Phyllis Vandehaar

Marilyn Heemstra
Marinella Hoksbergen
Carol Klein
Bonnie Kuyper
Joyce Leu
Joanne Ter Louw
Lillian Lubbers
Sara Van Maaren
Gertie Matches
Wilma Mathes
Marianne Vanden Oever
Ruth Pippel
Corinne Ver Ploeg
Darlene Vander Pol
Dolores Rempe
Violet Van Rheenen
Shirley Rook
Wilma Roorda
Mary Jo Schakel
Patsy Schriener
Norma Swank
Joann Walraven
Darlene Van Wyk
Donna Zwank Gosselink
Judy De Reus
Evelyn Van Kalkeren
Patsy Goad
Harold Bean
Marvin Benscooter
Glen Boat
Orlo De Bruin
Paul Dingeman
Willis De Geus
Murray Goemaat
William De Haan
Jun Ikuta
Ralph Jaarsma
Clarence Leydens
Roland McCombs
Kenneth Menninga
Wayne Vander Pol
Darrell De Reus
Carl Van Roekel
Wilford Roose
Wayne Klein
Junior Steenhoek
Kenneth Uitermarkt
Cleo Ver Hoef
Norman Verros
Keith Vriezelaar
Billy Van Waardhuizen
Dick Van Zomeren
Arnold De Jong

Class of 1955

Mary Jane Braafhart
Beth Brom
Helen DeBruin

Aldora Buwalda
Barbara Jean Denburger
Luella Mae Van Ekeren
Eleanor Gaass
Joan Ruth Gosselink
Shirley Groendyke
Pauline Van Ham
Sally Lou In't Veld
Joann Louise Keldermaan
Lila Joy Klein
Darlene Joy Kuiper
Janis Kuyper
Patricia Louise McCombs
Sylvia Kay Rolffs
Berdene Evelyn Roose
Nancy Lorraine Slycord
Delores Roxine Smith
Elinor Jean Uitermarkt
Carol Ann Veenstra
Johanna M. Vernooy
Mary Ann De Vries
Shirley Marlene Waits
Marilyn Faye De Zwarte
Ruth Esther De Zwarte
Roger E. Atkins
Herbert D. Blom
Nelson E. Bogaard
Ronald L. Brand
Frank Brower
Larry E. De Bruin
Paul Oakley Buwalda
Ronald D. Coop

Phillip Cummings
Ernie Van Dusseldorf
Richard H. Edwards
Paul Douglas Frundt
Eugene Paul Gosselink
Ervin L. Van Haaften
Alvin L. Hiemstra
Don Hiemstra
Robert Van Houwelingen
Peter J. De Jong
Barry L. Kane
Edward C. Keuning
Dirk Muyskens
Melvin C. Petersma
Donald A. Ver Ploeg
Norman N. Terlouw
Larry G. Thomassen
Neil Ray Thomassen
J. C. Toom
Carl W. Tysseling
Jerry J. Valster
H. Laverne Visser
Harold E. Vos
Wayne Bert Vander Werff
Harold L. Wichhart
Kenneth L. De Wild

Class of 1956

Joan Aalbers
Fern LaRue Adel



BACCALAUREATE AT FIRST REFORMED CHURCH, Class of 1957.
The Class of 1972 voted not to have a baccalaureate service, and it has not been held since then.

Kathleen Bennett
Dolores Joy Vanden Berg
Andrea Boat
Barbara Ann Bosch
Lou Ann Butler
Sonja Sue Claussen
Dorothy Jean Dieleman
Marleen Duven
Shirley Lavonne Van Dyk
Shirley Arlene Dykhuis
Lareatha Faye Dykstra
Marilyn Joyce Van Essen
Marilyn Joyce De Geus
Marlene Clara De Geus
Regina Ann De Geus
Bernice Joan Van Gilst
Arlene Ruth Van Gorp
Norma Hagan
Mary Lou Ten Hagen
Junella Elizabeth Van Hal
Twila Marlene Van Hemert
Verna Rose Van Hemert
Vivian Marie De Heus
Judith Huyser
Judith Christa In't Veld
Mary Lois De Jong
Nancy Vander Meulen
Dorothy Nell Vanden Oever
Rosella Mae Petersma
Gladys Faye Ver Ploeg
Janice Elaine Van Der Pol
Leora Quinn
Kathleen Joan Redeker
Ardis Marilyn Van Rees
Cleora Joyce Van Roekel
Sandra Kay Sels
Sally Joyce Sents
Marlene Joan Terpstra
Frances Kay Van Veen
William T. Bean
Glen T. De Bruin
James Carl De Bruin
Robert Eugene Buyert
Larry Eugene Fisk
Lee Howard Van Grop
H. Eugene De Heer
Glenn E. Van Heukelom
Douglas Lee Heerema
Herman Dale De Jong
Marvin De Jong
Melvyn Gene Kelderman
Donald Klyn
John Andrew Dallas Minter
Harvey Lee Nossaman
Max J. Van Rees
Jerry D. Rempe
Ervin Roorda
Donald L. Rouwenhorst
Jerome Henry Schakel
Melvin Floyd Vander Schel

Jerry Dean Stump
Robert Lee Toom
Gary Lee Van Vark
Ronald Fred Veenstra
Arie Vande Voort, Jr.
Murray Lee Vos
Ronald K. Waits
Avis Verhoef
Wilma Henrietta Vernooy
Marilyn Joyce Visser
Lenora Marilyn Vogelaar
Bette Janet Vos
Barbara Lavern Voss

Class of 1957

Lavelle Mae Brockway
Norma Jean De Bruin
Nancy Jane De Cook
Sarah Margaretta Davis
Evelyn Dykstra
Edith Lorraine Frundt
Donna Goemaat
Sally Ann Hugen
Norma Faye Jansen
Bonnie Lou De Jong
Janice Leora Kane
Sandra Kay Koopman
Alice Marlene Ter Louw
Nancy Ann Ter Louw
Thelma Rose Mitchell
Elva Mae Newendorp
Lois Ann Nieuwsma
Lorna Mae Ver Ploeg
Ruth Ann Van Rees
Janice Ellen Rempe
Aleatha Mae Van Rheenen
Joyce Marilyn Van Roekel
Maxine Joyce Slykhuis
Norma Jean Vander Streek
Mary Ann Sytsma
Phyllis Fern Waits
Shirley JoAnn Wichhart
Karen Vander Wilt
Gerard Den Adel
Larry Darwin Angove
Leroy E. Den Besten
Stanley L. Beyer
Keith V. Blom
Thomas Boat
Donald W. Bogaards
Ronald H. Bogaard
James F. Duffus
Robert D. Van Dyke
Dale E. Fleck
Tom Gaard
Dirk Wayne Van Gorp
Elbert H. Van Gorp
Rodney W. Gosselink

Kenneth De Haan
Donald Van Hal
Larry Van Halen
Robert Hiemstra
L. John Horman
Ronald Elwin Kaldenberg
Kenneth Wayne Kuiper
Larry Kuiper
Robert Lee Leydens
Marvin Meppelink
Thomas Mitchell
Larry Nossaman
Carl Nollen
Norman L. Ver Ploeg
Max L. Vander Pol
Carroll Pope
Carroll W. Rempe
Verlan H. Van Rheenan
John Rietveld
Harley Van Roekel
Kadell Roorda
E. David Schimmel
William L. Sheppard, Jr.
David L. Stults
Marvin Vande Voort
Charles W. Vos
Duane De Vries
John W. Van Waardhuizen
Jerry Van Waardhuizen
Allen Duane Witzenburg

Comments

In the official records kept of Pella High School students from 1906 to the 1930's, there is a space for comments. Something is written by almost every name. Usually, the comment is simply "Graduated." Here are examples of other comments, probably written by the principal or the superintendent.

Dropped out - health.
Graduated from Central.
Married the YMCA secretary and moved to Europe.
Became a minister.
Became a teacher.
Eloped.
Was a flier in France in 1917.
Dropped. Much ability but not interested.
Dropped in Sophomore year; no interest in school.



"CLASS PICTURE" was printed on the schedule of graduation each spring with different graduates posing in the same place wearing the same old robes each year. Top is the Class of 1941. Below is the Class of 1958, almost a generation later.

Did not return for senior year; went to ladies' school in the East.

Poor health. Dropped.

Suspended for truancy and lying; decided not to come back.

Died of typhoid fever.

Moved to Montana.

Became an army nurse.

Changed to Central Academy.

Dropped in freshman year.

Little ability for school work.

Dropped for health reasons.

Received diploma through a mistake. Do not recommend for college.

Class of 1958

Mary Lynn Boat

Diane Joyce Ver Dugt

Carolyn R. Van Dusseldorp

Marjorie Elaine Gosselink

Marilee Ann Grandia

Judith Kay Groendyke

Carole Lynn Grootveld
 Gertrude Marilyn Van Houweling
 Sandra Ann Klein
 Donna Jean Klyn
 Mary Ann Klyn
 Marjorie Ellen Maasdam
 Sherrill Penelope Martin
 Janice Lucille Mol
 Darlene Louise Monster
 Lorraine Carol Poortinga
 Mary Jane Poortinga
 Janice Arlene Robus
 Mary Lou Roorda
 Jeanne Rouw
 Donna Kay Ruby
 Hilma Jean Schagen
 Carol Ann Sedrel
 Patricia Ann Slycord
 Wilma Jean Slycord
 Lavon Stieremann
 Eileen Joyce Thomassen
 Linda Ann Tysseling
 Janice Eileen Vos
 Frances Marcene De Vries
 Marilyn Joyce Wielard
 Marla Joan De Wild
 Verlan John Den Adel
 Elmer De Bruin
 Keith Coop
 Byron Dean Van Ee
 Robert L. Van Essen
 Julian B. Garrett
 Richard N. Glendening
 Larry De Goey
 Donald W. Gosselink
 Warren V. De Haan
 Bruce Heerema
 Marvin R. Hiemstra
 Leo L. De Jong
 Evert J. J. Kroes
 Harley Duane Kuiper
 Logan Keith Kuiper
 Keith Eugene Langstraat
 Ronald Ver Meer
 Ronald D. Naaktgeboren
 Larry E. Renaud
 Ronald R. Rinehart
 Glen J. Van Roekel
 Donald E. Roorda
 Dwight L. Roorda
 James P. Roorda
 Preston J. Steenhoek
 Stanley E. Van Vark
 Carl W. Van Der Veer
 Marvin L. Verros
 David N. Vos
 Wesley Marvin Vos
 Clarence Lee Van Waardhuizen
 Ervin Dean Van Waardhuizen

Thomas Judson Waechter
Gary J. Wallace
Stanley Vander Werf
Evan Vander Wert
Dennis A. Van Zee

Class of 1959

Marilyn Ruth Aalbers
Hattie LaJean Barnes
Judith Lavonne Vanden Berg
Shirley Ann Blom
Barbara Anne Boat
Cheryl Dawn Brower
Carolyn Jean Brown
Joan Bruinekool
Karen Sue Dearinger
Judy Kay Van Ekeren
Sandra Mae Franje
Dorothy Jean De Geus
Linda Kay Glendening
Roberta Goemaat
Bertha Alice Vander Hart
Karen Joan Van Heukelom
Mary Ellen Van Heukelom
Aberlene Ver Heul
Jessie De Jong
Karen Louise Klein
Arlene Ann Klyn
Kay Diane Kuyper
Joan Kay McDonald
Karyn L. Ver Meer
Connie Vander Meulen
Joan Ruth Nollen
Eileen Ruth Nunnikhoven
Alda Mae Pippel
Dolores June Van Roekel
Connie Sue Schippers
Linda Joyce Steenhoek
Evelyn Frances Van Steenis
Marsha Beth Van Steenis
Maxine Evelyn Uitermarkt
Bonnie Maree Verrips
Myra Jean Verros
Bonnie Jean Modlin
Loretta Van Waardhuizen
Marilyn Ann Walraven
Karen Louise Van Wyk
Betty Jean Wyma
Linda Mae Van Zee
Thomas Leroy Bloodsworth
Larry W. Bogaard
Jack Edson Brockway
Wilson Dean Butler
Reuben Buwalda
John Mark De Cook
Stuart Arie De Cook
Donald James Dahm
Roger Dean Duven

Ronald Alvin Van Ekeren
Ronald Gerald De Geus
Larry Gene Hackert
Lee Ray Van Ham
Ron Vander Hart
Fred Vander Heiden
Jerry Wayne Hoogenakker
Dale Lyn Kane
Gerald Lee Kuiper
Ronald Wayne Vander Leest
John W. Newendorp
Stanley Dale Nollen
Gene Roose
Robert Eugene Slykhuis
Larry R. Terpstra
Larry Eugene Toom
Jerry Lee Ulrich
Marion Lee Vink
Larry D. Vander Werff
Howard P. Westerkamp
Howard Wayne De Wild
Daryl James Vander Wilt

Rolland Vander Zyl
Shirley Van Gorp
Norman Van Zante
Phyllis Ver Ploeg
James Renaud
Wilmena Schimmel
Delwyn Witzenburg
Willis Vander Horst
Rodney Ongna
Peter Westerkamp
Willene Tysseling
Arlene Tysseling
Quentin Kuyper
Marilyn Van Dusseldorf
Edith Nollen
Deanna Dykstra
Melvin Uitermarkt
Sharon Breen
Stanley Klyn
Stanley Vroom
Charles De Bruin
Darlys Bosch
Bonnie Vos
David Kuyper
Martha Terlouw
Robert Brouwer
Linda Jelsma

Carl Van Houweling
Mary Lou Meulpolder
Melvin Van Wyk
Diane Wanders
Ronald De Bruin
Glenda Steenhoek
Dale Eeling
Mary Jane Beyer
Irvin Van Rheenen
Janet Nollen
Jaren Vander Linden
Judy Van Steenis
Norman Van Haaften
Linda Vande Voort
Paul Toom
Joyce De Geus
Larry Van Dusseldorf
Donna Douwstra
Larry Bensink
Mary Dieleman
Ralph Klein
Phoebe Van Ham
Ronald Geetings
Mary Evers
Phillip Van Den Berg
Loren Van Gorp

Class of 1960

Jessie Van de Voort
Ken De Bruin
Leahann Van Essen
Helen Van Zee
Beverly Boatsma
Virginia Van Vark
Dolores Verros
Larry Steenhoek
Karen Wesselink
Charles Slykhuis
John Grandia
Douglas Schakel
Robert Vander Waal
Louise Vanden Berg
Donald Vander Wilt
Hendrena Schimmel
Robert Martin
Nelva Van Haaften
Jerry Bogaards
Dorothy Poortinga
Arvin Roose
Barbara Mitchell
Rodney De Vries
Eileen Dieleman
Owen Ver Meer
Pat Blom
Ronald Van Rees
Marilyn Van Wyk
Lee Rempe
Darlene Hoven
Charles Bogaard
Mary Kaldenberg
Max Kane
Willeda Van Rheenen

Class of 1961

Robert Vos
Sharyl Van Rheenen
Judy Vander Waal

Edwin Klyn
Lois Ward
Steve De Cook
Betty Van Ekeren
Jerry Gosselink
Ron Witter
Dixie Riggen
Gary Muilenberg
Carolyn Geurts
Doug Vander Werf
Karen Knowles
Wilbur Rozenberg
Karen Van Waardhuizen
Tony Tysseling
Ruby Vander Hart
John Vande Kieft
Sharon Duven
Herb Roorda
Karen Olivier
Don De Heer
Kathy Gosselink
Marvin Spoelstra
Ilene Cassidy
Ben Van Zante
Jean Van Zee
Wilfred Hoekman
Mary Van Zomeren
Larry Kool

Rita Castel
Roger Witzenburg
Delwin Van Zante
Arvin Van Rheenen
Arnold Int'Veld
Alan Naaktgeboren
Cordell Verwers
Marvin Klein
Dennis Squibb
Delmar Wichhart
Ruth Brouwer
Ruth Kuyper
LeRoy Kelderman
Mary Hollebrands
Larry Haverkamp
Bonnie Vander Linden
George Vande Voort
Phyllis De Bruin
Robert Rempe
Larry Kingrey
Beverly Winegar
Robert Vander Veer
Janna Huyser
Verlan Dykstra
Sandra Vander Linden
Tom Van Vliet
Marilyn TerLouw
Jerry Van Den Berg

Linda Angove
Duane Poortinga
Evelyn Dykstra
Harry Braafhart
Georgia Ten Hagen
Kenneth Nossaman
Marcia Vogelaar
Glen Witzenburg
Jean Roorda
James Garrett
Alice Bosveld
Edward Klyn
Delores Vander Pol
Bill Vroom
Kathy McDonald
Duane Dieleman
Gerald Roose
Paul Kuyper
Adrian Uitermarkt
Kenneth Robus
Ron Steenhoek
William Wing
Robert Tukker

Class of 1962

Janice De Geus
Melba Van Hemert



EIGHTH GRADE GRADUATION meant dressing up in new clothes, having a program in the high school auditorium, then posing for a big class picture, proudly holding diplomas, in the high school gym. This picture was taken in 1959 of the students who became the first class to graduate from the new high school on University Street.

Nancy Vander Pol
Wendy Knowles
Jerry Franje
Donna De Hamer
Ralph De Jong
Marsha Wanders
John Oppenhuizen
Nancy Kool
Lawrence Van Heukelom
Paul Bogaard
Mary Breuklander
Allen Vander Linden
Bonnie Butler
Jean Van Ekeren
Mary Schakel
Connie Sedrel
Robert Hoksbergen
Edna Kelderman
Roger Palmquist
Twyla Van Steenis
Stanley De Bruin
Ella Van Zante
Ronald Zwank
Wanda Van Vark
Jerry Slykhuis
Judith Den Adel
Elmer Roorda
Karen Roorda
Ronald Van Heukelom
Karen Vanden Baard
Larry Langstraat
Luella Rozendaal
Steven Stientjes
Dorothy Van Zee
Anthony Kuiper
Elaine Schakel
Roger Willemsen
Darlene Verwers
Carl Veenstra
Mike Gates
Lewis Vande Voort
Ruth Fleck
Mary Lou Gosselink
Joyce Garrett
Martha Schakel
Ray Byers
Judith Vande Kieft
Jan Kregel
Joan Muyskens
Marvin Hackert
JoAnn Witzenburg
Bob Ulrich
James Modlin
Dorothy McMurray
Eugene Mathes
Connie Mol
Lynda Sents
Mary Ann Vander Peut
Mary Van Steenis
Edward McReynolds

Shirley Stump
Jaren De Penning
Nancy Vos
Marion Terpstra
Helen De Kruyff
Donald Dop
Carlene Van Zante
Duane Robus
Karen Vander Leest
Robert Riggen
Twilla Tukker
Dennis Klyn
Nancy Poortinga
Phil Swank
Phyllis Van Waardhuizen
Stanley Roorda
Karen Ver Ploeg
Jaren Steenhoek
Joanne Hol
Jerry Breen
Pamela Gaass
Philip Ongna

Brenda Sue Van Dyke
Audrey June Van Essen
Marilyn Louise Hindman
Delores Ilene Holm
Pamela Ruth Klein
Charlene Klyn
Ileen Ruth Kuiper
Edith Ann Vander Linden
Lois Ter Louw
Sharon Kay Van Maaren
Gweneth Jean Mathes
Mary Adelaide Ver Meer
Virginia Ver Ploeg
Linda Kaye Poortinga
Sharon Kay Van Rees
Lola Jean Van Rheenen
Meredith Lynn Schakel
Marla Kay Schiebout
Norene Leon Simons
Sharon Kay Sneller
Dorothy Fay Tukker
Linda Ruth Uitermarkt
Delores De Vries
Vivian Beth Vroom
Norma Lurana Westerkamp
Patricia Kay Wichhart
Pamela Wilson
Mary Margaret Wing
Mary Lou Van Wyk
Carol Ilene Van Zante
Donna Mae Van Zee
Marla Beth Van Zee

Class of 1963

Diana Ruth Van Den Baard
Margaret Jean Vandenberg
Linda Sue Bevan
Beverly De Cook
Sharon Kay Coop
Barbara Jane Duvan

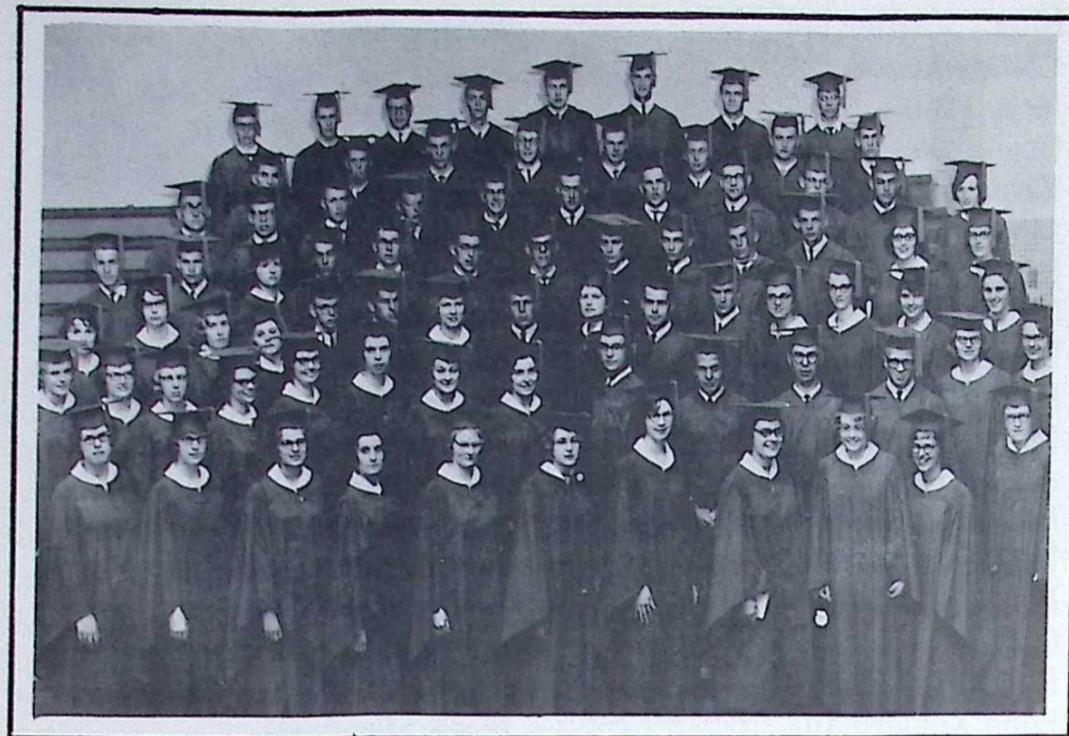


A CHRISTMAS TREE was in every room in the elementary schools when this picture of Webster School first graders was taken in 1953. They graduated from high school in 1965. Their teacher was Leona Reuvers, who taught in the Pella schools for 42 years.

Boyd Ray Aldridge
 Arvin Duane Angove
 Keith D. Beintema
 Bernard William Brom
 Wilkie Chen
 Alvin Ray Van Dyke
 Rodney J. Gaard
 Donald Eugene Geetings
 Richard Jon Vande Haar
 John D. Hiemstra
 Wilmer James Hoekman
 Donald John Hoekstra
 Karmen L. Huyser
 Dennis Gene Jelsma
 Marvin Eugene Vande Kieft
 Larry Dean Klein
 Stanley Dean Klein
 Harris Lee Kuiper
 Edwin Lee Vander Linden
 Leo K. Vander Linden
 Michael M. McNamar
 Donald John Ver Meer
 Robert Meppelink
 Keith Allen Nollen
 Kenneth Lee Olivier
 Henry E. Ver Ploeg
 Henry R. Van Rheenen
 Roger Ray Ringnalda
 Ronald Lee Van Roekel
 Marvin Eugene Roozeboom
 Jack Dennis Schippers
 William Jay Schreiner
 David Lee Sels
 Roger Slykhuis
 Verlan R. Smith
 Robert Earl Staal
 Dennis Steenhoek
 Jack Myron Taylor
 Harlan Louis Van Vark
 Glen Brokaw Van de Voort
 Robert J. Vroegh
 Richard Alan Vroom
 Marvin Ray Van Wyk
 Mark Van Zomeren
 Robert Allen Vander Zyl

Class of 1964

Jeanne Ruthven
 Rose Ann Van Essen
 Paul Beyer
 Marlene Van Roekel
 Raymond Vos
 Mary Van Nimwegen
 Marvin Pothoven
 Jean Paul
 Kenneth Nollen
 Linda Ward



THE CLASS OF 1964 graduated from the new high school after attending classes in schools all over the district. Some of them were kindergartners in the old Webster building, then moved to the new Webster School. Some were at Lincoln, Otley or Leighton; others were in rural schools through most of their grade school years. They had junior high classes in Webster, and the first two years of high school in the Union Street building. As classes grew larger, a few new robes were ordered, but some of the robes were used for decades.

Patricia Vandenberg	Phillip Schreiner
James Vander Werff	Eunice Vander Zyl
Delores Van Vark	Donivan Shetterly
Tim Caldwell	Judith Steenhoek
Nancy Hiddeson	Harvey Witenburg
John Van Hemert	Carolyn Van Den Berg
Bonnie Van Wyk	Thomas Line
Laurence Breuklander	Eunice Roorda
Shelby Netten	Jerry Beyer
George Bandstra	Margaret Waechter
Lois Van Gorp	Rodney Verwers
Keith De Heus	John Van Zee
Ann Veldhuis	Diana Hummel
Elmer Van Steenis	Duane Meyer
Emily Van Wyk	Joyce Witter
Larry Aldridge	Stanley Bogaard
Lois Van Ham	Sharon Van Den Berg
Gene Poortinga	Carleton Van Steenis
Ruth Hiemstra	Jean Morgan
Charles Spoelstra	Verlan Van Ee
John Kuitwaard	Beverly Joosten
Edwin Vander Wilt	James Ter Louw
Bonnie Swank	Jean McReynolds
James Patton	Glen Vander Werf
Linda Bogaard	John Nollen
Bernie Van Roekel	John Dieleman
Patricia Koopmans	John Gezel
Marvin Van Zee	Melvin Poortinga
Louise Van Zante	Robert De Ronde
Paul Van Zee	Harvey Vander Weide
Irwin Vander Zyl	Dottie Paris
Lois De Haan	Andrew Ter Louw

Mary Kane
Daryl Van Steenis
Judith Van Essen
Rick Sloan
Marlene Riemersma
Peter De Kruyff, Jr.
Kenneth Hol
James Van Zee

Richard Vander Hart
Marcia Nieman
Susan Wiedman
Dennis Vander Beek
Karla Kingery
Lyle Van Kampen
Mary De Koning
Dennis Nieuwsma
Linda Van Roekel
Sharon Rietveld
Roger Van Vark
Betty Sytsma
Lynn Crawford
Laura Klein
Judy De Cook
Gaylor Carter
Betty Vander Zyl
Gary Koopman
Mary Van Zee
Bob Vander Linden
Betty Vanden Berg
Steven Swank
Phyllis Lansen
Ed De Penning
Judith Van Hemert
David Squibb
Benita Perkey
Paul Vande Voort
Janis Gaass
Alan Ver Ploeg
Lois Roorda
Bill Bensink
Joan Witzenburg
Ken Van Roekel
Laura Kuiper
Robert Van Waardhuizen

Eunice De Goey
Craig Douwstra
Douw Muyskens
Keith Roorda
Stan Van Veen
Bruce Visser
Carroll Visser
Stan Evers
Beth Van Sittert
Carol Ver Meer
Karen Flikkema
Martena Blauw
David Toom
Sheryl Van Steenis
Sue Dykstra
Kathleen Power
Don Ver Meer
Sandra Cowell
Paul Horman
Judith Grandia
Charles Vander Waal
Lola Monster
Mark Heerema
Linda Van Willigan
Corliss Den Adel
Larry Vos
Diane Joosten
Irene Kelderman
Jim Vanden Berg
Luana Kirby
Larry Mathes
Judy Nunnikhoven
Lynn Van Tuyl
Mark Van Berkum
Marcia Van Haaften
Linda De Zwarde

Valedictorians

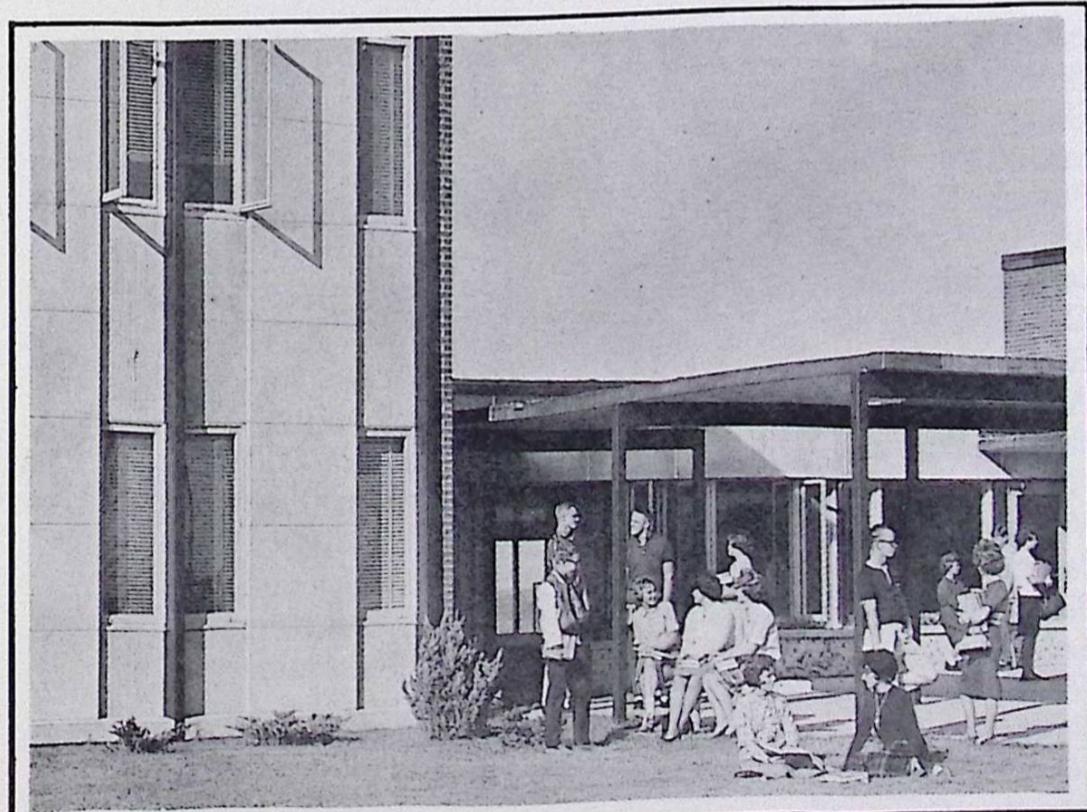
Probably the first valedictorian for PHS was Minta Lovell who had the highest grades in the Class of 1880 and gave a valedictory address entitled "Silence" at commencement.

Although graduation programs for all the classes since then do not exist, it is probable that a valedictorian was selected for every class which graduated after that until 1965 when the school changed to a system of graduating top students "with honor." At first, this was all students with a 3.5 grade average; later changed to the top 10 percent of the class.

In 1964, the last year that PHS named valedictorians, two students tied for the top grade average and were called co-valedictorians. They were Lois De Haan and Jeannie Ruthven.

Class of 1965

Judy Kregel
Guy Jones
Judy Steenhoek
Paul Wilson
Mary Steenhoek
Phyllis Schippers
Mary Van Heukelom
Ted Weirather
Joan Vander Beek
Rodger Steenhoek
Sandra Roorda
Rodney De Bruin
Patricia Rempe
Bill Van Zante
Linda Hummel
Linda Van Kalkeren



IN THE FALL OF 1962, PHS students had a new building.

Angie Hoven
Sandra Sneller
Edwin Vandenberg
Helen Wyma
Carl De Jong
Jayne Van Vliet
Dan Du Pree
Barbara Vandenberg
Edward Van't Sant
Anne Davies
David Willemsen
Phyllis Hackert
Steve Budding
Betty Monster
Kenneth Vandervoort
Glenda Pringle
Donald Willemsen
Barbara Michmershuizen
Fred Sels
Linda Roose
Rex Van Dyke
Jan Emmert
Russell Singleton
Lynda Douglas
Duane Vander Molen
Connie Kamerick
Ruth Dingeman
Karen Van Zee
Jim Nelson
Stanley Poortinga
Charles Vande Noord

Judy Tukker
Monte Kirby
Carol Vander Weide
Roger Westra
Dianna Beekhuizen
Jack Duffus
Mary Farver
Jacob Kuitwaard
Judy Rietveld
Karen Koob
Nela Vande Wall
Jack Hagens
Loren Kuiper
Gary Van Wyk
Larry Bruxvoort
Edwin Vander Linden
Edwin Vander Werff
Thomas Vermeer
David Klein
Johnnee Garrett
Carol Gosselink
Connie Ter Louw
Jane Heerema
Joanne Woensdregt
Andrea Van Zee
Gayle Wesselink
Phyllis Moffet
Edwin Van Hemert
Martha Roozeboom
David Vander Meulen
John Pratt
Terry Schreiner
Linda Hamre
Jack Hoeksema
Janice Van Willigan
Stanley Rempe
Lois Van Vark
Gary Steenhoek
Marilyn Van Zee
Dario Donolo
Connie Helm
Ronald Helm
Mary Pothoven
James Braafhart
Mary Van Vark
Gregory Umble
Connie Rempe
Rodney Van Wyk
Donna Van Dyke
Carl Van Dusseldorp
Karen Musgrove
Stanley Schuring
Susanne Steenberg
Martin Blecha
Larry Klyn
Larry Roose
Charles Van Zante
Larry Geeting
Gregory Van Vark
James Buwalda

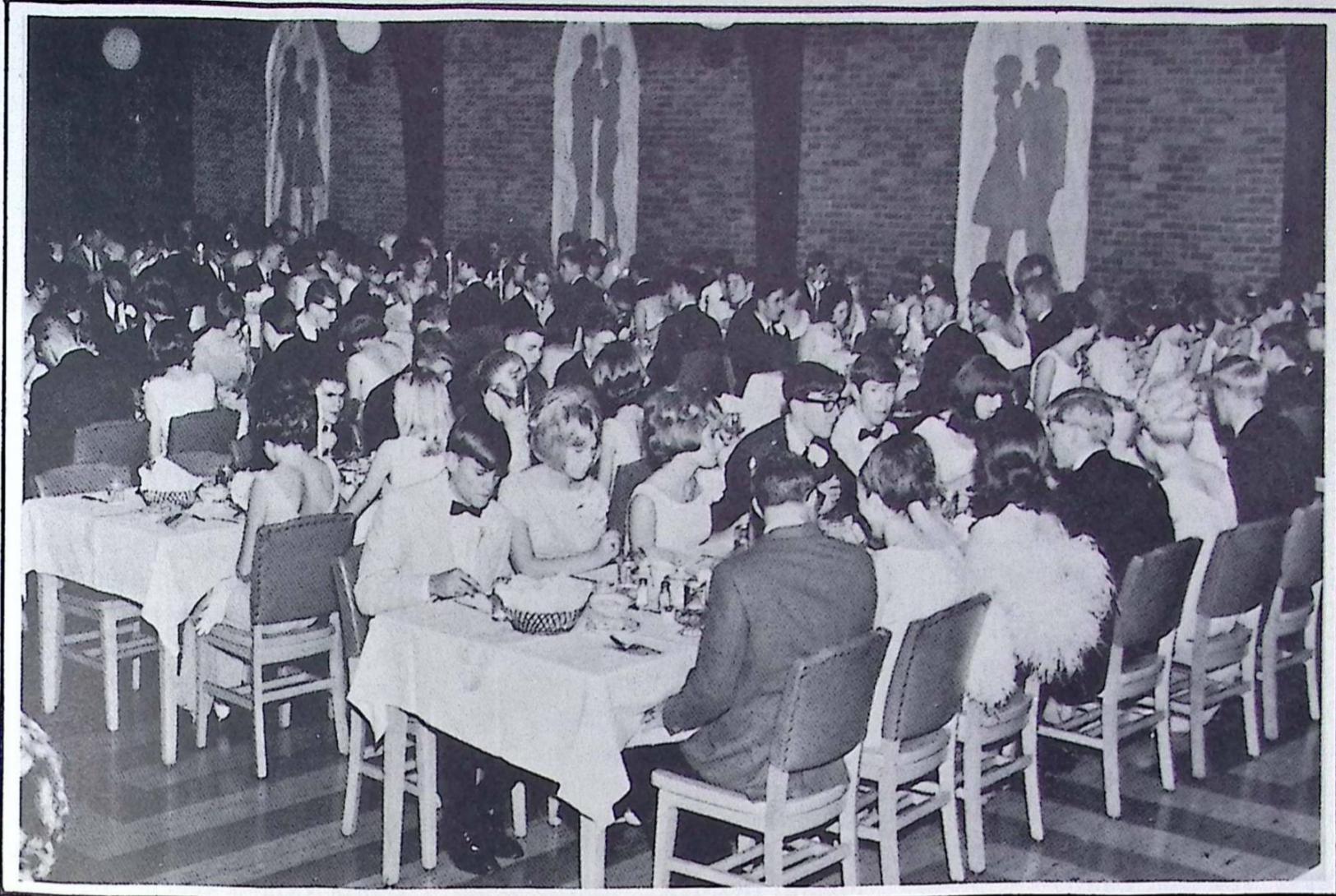
Douglas Van Gorkom
Karl Valster
David Vande Noord

Class of 1967

Glenda De Heus
John Mathes
Arja Woensdregt
David Snuttjer
Carol Allen
Wayne Mathes
Kent Van Vark
David Dingeman
Sonja Shetterly
Kendra Warner
Mary Ver Ploeg
Jerry Vos
Carol Van Rheenen
Steve Vander Waal
Gloria Roorda
Elwood Hanna
Linda De Zwart
Richard Criss
Joyce McReynolds
Al Van Zee
Barbara Van Gorp
Francis Van Wyk
Judy Muller
Wanlop Chandarasiri
Susan Van Steenis
Mike Randol
Ann Whitney
Dennis Vos
Beverly Mathes
Charles Keuning
Sharon Beyer
Keith De Bruin
Barbara Vermeer
Gordon Dingeman
Sherril Sneller
Tim Johnson
Laura Klein
John Petersma
Sheila Budding
Gary Vroom
Jeanette Kroes
Clarence Van Essen
Sharon Menninga
Bob Peters
Susan Bogaard
David Swank
Judith Van Adel
Randy Vander Wert
Linda Ver Meer
Thomas Bosveld
Phyllis Rietveld
Robert Newendorp
Connie Robus

Class of 1966

Susan Kuyper
Alberta Plate
Arthur Knowles
Gloria Gosselink
Janice Ver Ploeg
Pamela De Geus
Marla Van Wyk
James Johnson
Carol Nollen
Roger Hoekstra
Arlene De Geus
Ronald Bensink
Carolyn Dykstra
Wendell De Geus
Janice Klootwyk
Kenneth Steenhoek
Lola Klein
Victor Shetterly
Faye Van Wyk
John Wisse
Marilyn Goemaat
Darrell Goodyk
Cheryl Olivier
Melvin Ter Louw



JUNIOR-SENIOR BANQUET was the big event each spring for many years. This was the banquet staged by the Class of 1968 for the Class of 1967 in April, 1967, in the Central College dining hall.

Donald Roorda
Janice Kool
Jim Schroder
Connie Terpstra
Wayne Whitney
Albert Beaning
Ned Hedrick
Earl Hormann
Karen Tucker
Tom Van Sittert
Ruth Van Roekel
Jim Heerema
Karin Van Zante
Arvin Van Zante
Janice Mathes
Joan Van Wyk
Nancy Cruzen
Don De Bruin
Katherine Butler
John Vande Voort
Barbara Kuiper
Jim Dieleman
Nancy Paris
Dwight Steenhoek
Kathy Bailey
Max Vander Linden
Gayle Groenenboom
Dean Vander Leest

Jill Schippers
Jerry Van Wyk
Mary Van Rheenen
Bryce Crawford
Cynthia Wyscarver
Robert Schreiner
Diana Langstraat
Delmer Van Wyk
Bonnie Mathes
Larry Stam
Helen De Koning
Joel Caldwell
Lila De Penning
Wayne Frank
Dixie Steenhoek
Bill Nation
Janice Breen
Bruce Uitermarkt
Marilyn Van Engelenhoven
Thomas Whalley
Debbie Vermeer
Dennis Van Gorp
Janice Steenhoek
Daryl De Prenger
Barbara Nelson
Jerry Swank
Judy Klein
Eldon Vander Zyl

Cynthia De Prenger
Robin Van Dyke
Diana Trueblood
Dennis De Penning
Barbara Wyma
Howard Roorda
Marlene Van Roekel
Mike Schuring
Coretha Blauw
John Van Berkum
Robert Vandervoort

Class of 1968

Jeff Emmert
Judy Wierenga
Calvin Van Nieuwaal
Tomi Steward
Allan C. De Winter
Nancy Ter Louw
Alvin Vander Peut
Linda Witzenburg
Robert Vander Beek
Myra Heusinkveld
Jim Huyser
Vincent Klyn
Gary Roozeboom

Soila Aaltonen	Gregory Wayne Hoekstra	David Du Pree
Kim Busby	Judy Faye De Zwarde	Janet Gezel
Iris Alonso	Beci Nieman	Frank Fuller
Dwayne Steenhoek	Mark Vos	Myra Van Hemert
Dorothy De Nooy	Jo Ann Ruth Van Wyk	Robert L. Burney
Connie Aldridge	Michael G. Courtney	Lola Van Wyk
Jim Vandenberg	Norma Vander Hart	Joel Vandervoort
Donita M. Philby	Tom Schreiner	Marlene Hugen
Mary Watkins	Joanne Markarian	Duane Lee Vander Hart
Wanda Kay Furcht	Duane Ver Ploeg	Deborah Schippers
Stu Ver Meer	Mary Helen Groenenboom	Eric Ryerson
Connie Goemaat	Rick Pringle	Twyla Van Wyk
Diana Olson	Eileen Dykstra	Robert Westra
Betty Van Steenis	Sandra Poortinga	Diane Gosselink
Douglas Van Wyk	Stan Hiemstra	Larry De Bruin
Susan Snyder	Ilene Beyer	Kathy Peters
Carol Goodyk	Tom Paltzer	Dennis Langstraat
Sid Blommers	Esther Klein	June Bogaards
Karen Sutton	Lowell W. Renaud	Brad Vermeer
Kevin Klein	Linda Sietstra	Sheryl Baker
Nancy Ann Deal	Terry Bandstra	Gary Snyder
Danny Pope	Ruby Steenhoek	Elouise Dykens
Marlene Vander Linden	Allen Jay Spoelstra	Brian De Vries
Terry Van Steenis	Bev Buwalda	Kim Evers
Carol Steenhoek	Gene Brummel	Randol Van Weelden
Stan Vander Linden	Connie Van Wyk	Erma De Penning
Peggy Van Den Baard	Ronald Dykstra	Gloria Vander Wilt
Terrence Gene Vink	Cathy Jo Cade	Milton Vos
Diane Van Weelden	Scott Kilpatrick	Bev Roozeboom
Harold Dykens	Diana Hindman	Stan Kelderman
Vicky Lynn Beyer	Dave Bensink	Becky Westra
Duane Helm	Phyllis Poortinga	Michael Brueklander
Jo Ellyn Emmert	Reid Reinertson	Rita Bensink
Wayne A. Van Mersbergen	Linda Joyce Vander Werff	Wendell Frank
Peggy Vande Noord	Jim Perkey	Bonnie Swank
Robert V. Klein	Susan Bogaard	Ken Oppenhuizen
Sally Jo Vander Weide	Larry Cowell	Bryan Ver Ploeg
Henry Woensdregt	Linda Van Zante	Kenneth Swank
Jan Vanden Berg		Stanley Eugene Van Den Berg
Charles Van Zante		Ronald Menninga
Marcella Vander Linden		Martha Ver Meer
John Henry Muilenberg		Valerie Klein
Alvin Wesley Van Wyk	Deborah Van Wyk	Brenda Bergman
Lydna Moore	Sandy Vandenberg	Carol Vande Wall
Linda Van Wyk	Alice Vande Voort	David Wilkins
Ruth De Penning	Karen Gaass	Vicki Paris
William W. Cruzen	Roger Leahy	Philip Vos
Cindy Van Hemert	Bill Vermeer	Ann Dahm
Keith Newendorp	Gayle Vander Waal	Mike Vande Voort
Laura Hiemstra	Jim Ruthven	Gordon Graham
Dean De Bruin	Carol Hedrick	Chris Van Wyk
Barbara Ann Paul	Douglas De Vries	John Menninga
Charles S. Farver	Don Vande Noord	Barb Brummel
Helen Tysseling	Delilah Frogozo	Gene Ver Meer
Richard Vermeer	Mike Hummel	Patricia Nieman
Steve Patton	Pam Van Houweling	Steven Sneller
Michael Schapira	Bernard Schut	Janice Beth Grandia
Rhonda Ruffridge	Lora Van Dusseldorf	Larry Criss
Harvey James Blom	Robert R. Bailey	Joan De Zwarde
Patricia Riddle	Vickie Vander Linden	Duane Busby

Class of 1969

Deborah Van Wyk	
Sandy Vandenberg	
Alice Vande Voort	
Karen Gaass	
Roger Leahy	
Bill Vermeer	
Gayle Vander Waal	
Jim Ruthven	
Carol Hedrick	
Douglas De Vries	
Don Vande Noord	
Delilah Frogozo	
Mike Hummel	
Pam Van Houweling	
Bernard Schut	
Lora Van Dusseldorf	
Robert R. Bailey	
Vickie Vander Linden	

Judy Goemaat
Steve Kilpatrick
Joan Steenhoek
Ken De Kock
Diane Van Zee
Michael Harrison
Rhonda Van Kalkeran
Jim Hoven
Karen Vos
Daryl Van Weelden
Kathy Wyma
Ronald Wayne Vroegh
Twyla Van Haaften
Jim Ketchum
Lona Van Wyk
Leon Vander Linden
Helen Wichhart
Ted Roush
Norma Van Donselaar
Bryce Van Vark
Betty Van Engelenhoven
Rick Waits
Linda Ver Heul
Larry Van Zante
Karen Ver Ploeg
Rodger Braafhart
Andrea Ver Meer
Carl Stam
Marcia Roorda
Allen Wilson
Arlene Uitermarkt
Bruce Bandstra
Peggy Roorda
Jim Emmert
Ca-Rita Koopmans
Ronald Hoogenakker
Connie Herron
Randy Sloan
Stan Van Wyk
Richard Vander Leest
David Malin
Stephen Klimstra
Sherri Vander Wilt
Bruce De Penning

Class of 1970

Darla Horman
Alvin Van Roekel
David Van Dusseldorp
Duane Heyveld
Paul Steenhoek
Kristi Vos
Tony Van Zee
Marvin Vander Beek
Eric James Vande Berg
Harley Van Roekel
Terri Humphrey
Simonetta Muzzini

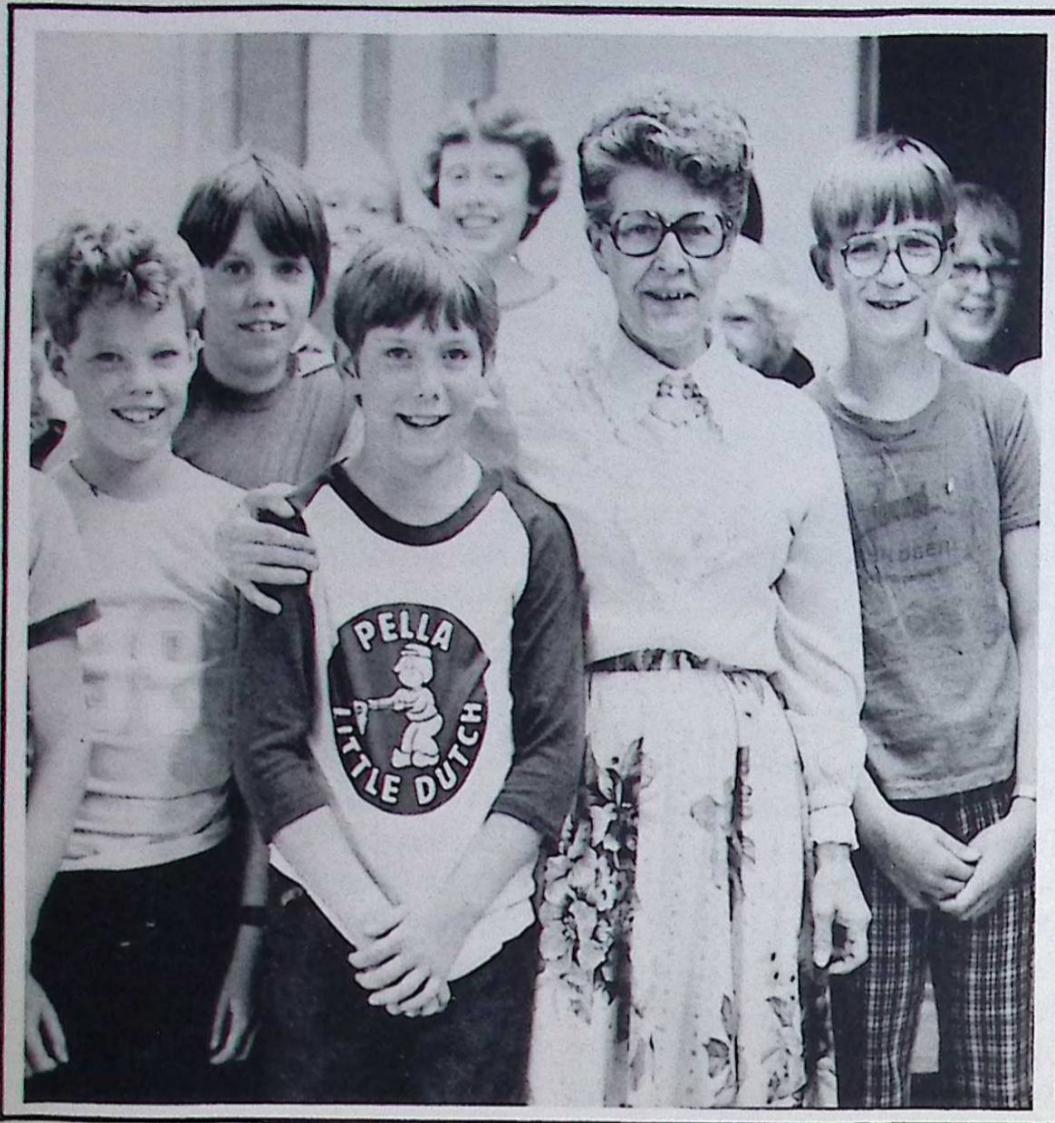
Teresa Shetterly
Kendra Randol
Marla Warner
Joleen Byers
Laurel Graham
Bernice Van Nieuwaal
Kathleen Van Wyk
Lois Franje
Ron Bailey
Sandra Schuring
Joel Lee De Ronde
Connie Wyma
Don Van Der Hart
Debi Van Hemert
Chuck Butler
Roberta Keith
Robert Petersma
Gladys Van't Sant
Lowell Vande Noord
Phyllis Ann Steenhoek
Tom Van Ekeren
Jane Van Haaften
Dave Van Zante
Pat Reinertson
Paul De Kruyff
Cynthia Van Zante
Joe Stientjes
Mary Benes
Jim Baker
Mary De Bruin
Bill Kroes
Ruth Van Wyk
Craig Willemens
Betty Hagens
Don Crawford
Lila Steenhoek
Charles Vander Werff
John Hedrick
Neal Van Veen
Nancey Uitermarkt
Gary Sneller
Keith Pothoven
Greg Gosselink
Marla Vos
Dodd Postma
Ruth Beyer
Marc Mills
Vernon Newendorp
Mary Wisse
Dan Dingeman
Judy Van Haalen
Lynda Sutton
Suzie Ryerson
Lora Van Wyk
Shirley Van Gorp
Lois Ver Meer
Kathy Ann Russell
Linda Van Wyk
Ron Van Dyk
Elaine Klyn

Mike Ballenger
Wilma Van Donselaar
Larry Dwayne Schippers
Marla De Jong
Lee Fuller
Marilyn De Koning
Mark Van Hemert
Bonnie Sneller
Michael Lee Terpstra
Lynn Vander Wert
Arvin Ter Louw
Kathy Van Ee
Larry De Cook
Bev Roozeboom
Gary Spoelstra
Judy Nieuwsma
Dave Vander Werff
Linda Bensink
Glen Beyer
Nancy Goemaat
Jim Snyder
Pamm Van Zee
Sidney Bruxvoort
Shirley Muilenberg
Ed Roorda
John Brummel
David Gene Van Hulzen
George Jochem Hettinga
Scott Caldwell
Elaine Van Wyk

National Merit Scholars

Since the National Merit tests began in 1963, Pella High School has had a total of 22 graduates named National Merit Scholar. They are:

1964-Mary Van Nimwegen
1966-Art Knowles
1967-Arvin Van Zante
1968-Ruth De Penning and Calvin Van Nieuwaal
1969-Brenda Bergman
1970-Greg Gosselink
1971-Paul Wilkins
1972-Bob Harrison, Lyle
Horman, Ann Renskers, Bob
Rouwenhorst and Dan Vos
1975-Bob Bosch and Paul
Heideman
1976-Pam Sagraves and Joe
Thomas
1978-Carlyn Boertje
1979-Marla Nieuwsma, Barry
Sagraves and Ron Waits
1980-Lori Whitaker



THE HAPPY LITTLE DUTCHMAN who decorates T-shirts, notebooks, pennants and programs was drawn by Orlan Crawford, Class of 1971, when he was a student at Pella High School. Orlan designed the insignia and painted it in the middle of the basketball court in the high school gymnasium at the request of Dave Bender, basketball coach. When the floor was refinished in 1978, the original of the popular design was covered up, but two replacements, including a little Dutch girl, were painted on the east side of the new floor. Orlan did not copyright his design and has never received any money for it but takes pride in seeing his high school art work frequently reproduced. These are sixth graders with their teacher, Darlene Bevan, when she retired in the spring of 1979.

Class of 1971

Holly Joanne White
Steve Greving
Jill Tysseling
Loren Vanderhart
Helen Vos
Douglas Jay Rooda
Audrey Steenhoek
Bradley Van Wyk
Linda Roorda
Bob Vos
Margaret Hammond
Tom Robbins
Toni Riddle Sparks
Roger Roose
Joyce Byers
Vance L. Beyer
Maggie Rumbaugh
Steven Earl Deal
Yon Ae Brom

Dave Wichhart
Arlene Furcht
Tom Wehr
Sharla Visser
Doyle Bogaards
Ruth Winegar
Galen Klein
Elaine Dykstra
Tom Du Pree
Janet Langstraat
George Thomas
Vicki Slagter
Craig Van Berkum
Elizabeth Ugalde Jimenez
Ron Mitchel
Jayne Vander Weide
Ken Stursma
Connie Whalley
Paul C. Dykstra
Kathy Gosselink
Doug Oppenhuizen

Marilyn Nieuwsma
Richard Roose
Arlene Roozeboom
Steven C. Van Weelden
Debi Shanks
Marion Vander Wilt
Beth De Prenger
Alan Boender
Cora Van Wyk
Tim Bruxvoort
Karen Newendorp
Dennis De Koning
Donna Poortinga
Pete Kuyper
Carol Vander Waal
Dave Ver Meer
Paulette Vermeer
Bruce De Bruin
James Leahy
Valerie Bergman
Margaret Paul
Jerry Vroegh
Miriam Flikkema
Paul Wilkins
Carla Vander Ploeg
Mike Moore
Diane Van Dusseldorp
Homer Showman
Sue Margaret Froelich
Roger De Vries
Clovie Kuiken
John Vander Wert
Laura Vandenberg
Duane E. Sabin
Nella Van Haaften
Keith Bogaard
Effie Kelene Ballenger
Steve Tait
Connie De Zwart
Stan Roberts
Linda Graham
Dennis Van Andel
Ann Wilkinson
Orlan Crawford
Carla Van Arkel
Richard Van Der Molen
Judy Dykstra
Bill Sytsma
Vesta L. Sabin
Alan Tucker
Bonnie Steenhoek
Douglas Van Gorp
Beth Van Weelden
Leland Vanden Oever
Sandra Fischer
Bryce Dahm
Jeannie Van Zee
Don De Kock
Kristy Malin
Alan W. Roorda

Rebecca Rempe
Jerry Dean Schuring
Tricia Steward
Mark Wesselink
Rebecca Hoekstra
Douglas Van Zee
Sandra Rempe
Roger Bruxvoort
Lisa Mills
Steve Klein
Jaci Vander Wert
Bill Slycord
Deborah Willemse
Steve Menninga
Cindy Wanders
James Vande Voort
Mike Trauger

Class of 1972

Kayla June Den Adel
Terri Lu Ann Arkema
Janna F. Bogaard
Cynthia Gayle Butler
Candace Joy Cade
Sheryl Dawn Clark
Karen Ann Dykstra
Linda Joy Gosselink
Elaine Gail Groenendyk
Mary Lynne Van Haaften
Pamela Marie Hart
Susan Joanne Van Hemert
Ginger May Heusinkveld
Catherine Anne Hinga
Kathe Gay Hixson
Wanda Faye Horman
Debbie Jean De Jong
Suzanne Kamerick
Roxanne Marie Kinney
Cheryl Ann Klein
Carol Maureen Kooi
Deletha Gae Vander Linden
Ruth Ver Meer
Linda Faye Vander Meiden
Molly Carol Menning
Nancy Jean Van Mersbergen
Gayle Jeanne Nieuwsma
Judith Elizabeth Northway
Charlene Joy Nunnikhoven
Nancy June De Penning
LuAnn Peters
Marilyn Rae Ver Ploeg
Sheryl Sue Pol
Vicky Lynn Pope
Janice Kay Pothoven
Shirley Jean Renaud
Ann Marie Renskers
Sandra Kay Rouw

Debra Lynn Rydstrand
Mary Ann Spoelstra
Janice Ruth Squibb
Sheryl Diane Steenhoek
Sheryl Lynn Stursma
Marianne Louise Swank
Roxane Jo Thomas
Mary Ann Vriezelaar
Karen Diane Van Waardhuizen
Deborah Gail Van Weelden
Debra Lynn Wineland
Lois Ruth Van Wyk
Judith Diane Van Zante
Steven Kent Andeweg
Thomas A. Bandstra
Don Ernest Boat
Randol Jaye Bogaards
Loren K. Bonnema
James Lee Brummel
Jerald Allen Brummel
Alan Wayne Buitenwerf
John Peter Verburge
Daniel Eugene Clark
Steven Arthur De Cook
Cary Giles Coop
Steven Wayne Doty
Stanley Ray Dykstra
Mark W. Gosselink
William David De Graaf
Gifford Stewart Graham
Arvin Wayne Van Hall
Robert Lynn Harrison
Lyle D. Horman
Marc Alen Humphrey
Curtis Dee Huyser
Daniel Wade Jansen
Carol Dean Van Kampen
Darrell Gene Van Kampen
Arlyn Dean Klyn
Douglas Gene Kooyman
Howard Lee Vander Linden
Steven Craig Vander Linden
Larry B. Van Maanen
Glenn E. Matherly
Randall Melvin Mattox
Douglas Lee Ver Meer
James Henry Vermeer
Stewart G. Menninga
Pablo Mier Garron
Larry Dean Newendorp
Gary L. Nunnikhoven
John R. Olsthoorn
Dennis James Ozinga
Norman Henry Petersma
Paul David Pippel
Charles Wayne Puyear
Clark B. Puyear
Richard Mental Qualls
Robert Clarence Rouwenhorst
Robert Alan Ruthven

Chris Alan Schakel
Bryce Allan Sietstra
David Ray Steenhoek
Jaren Ray Steenhoek
John Wayne Steenhoek
Kyle Nelson Steenhoek
Larry Eugene Steenhoek
Douglas Craig Stursma
Bob Glen Sytsma
David James Van Vark
Thomas S. Vines
Bruce Merlin Vos
Daniel John Vos
Ivan Eugene Vos
Mark N. Vos
Craig A. Van Waardhuizen
Wayne Allen Vande Wall
Brad A. Warner
Alan Lee Van Weelden
Randy D. Van Weelden
David Allen De Weerd
William A. Weller
David Lynn De Winter
Charles Jay Wisse
Arlan Duane Van Wyk
Kurt Alan Van Wyk
Lowell Warren Van Wyk
Gary A. Van Zante

Community Service Awards

Peter Kuyper, PHS Class of 1909, won the first Pella Community Service Award in 1972. Since that time, five other PHS graduates have won the award. They are Clarence C. Buerkens and Jane Gosselink, both members of the Class of 1915; Richard (Babe) Tysseling, Class of 1928; Bob Klein, Class of 1934, and Gary Vermeer, Class of 1935. Maurice Birdsall, who taught at Pella High School before he joined the Central College faculty, also was an award winner. In addition to graduating from PHS, Buerkens and Gosselink both taught and were administrators in the Pella schools. Martha Lautenbach graduated from Central College Academy.



FREAK DAY when the seniors dressed up in all sorts of crazy outfits was a part of the spring scene for several years. This is the Class of 1974.

Class of 1973

Susie Robbins
Laverne Jean Nunnikhoven
Karen De Kock
Bruce Newendorp
Ina Van Haaften
Brad Weyers
Suzanne Farver
Doyle Heyveld
Linda Oppenhuizen
John Goodyk
Jolene Zickel
Richard Olson
Debbie De Prenger
Eric Murray
Leslie Crawford
Terry Vander Wert
Joy Diann Rietveld
Gary Vos
Beth Heideman
Rex Brummel
Annie Robertson
Allen De Kock
Rayma Vander Leest
John Kingma
Gail Van Vark
Gregory Vickroy
Norma Van Wyk
Rod Visser
Ruth Muller
Leon Boat
Pat Roozeboom

Roger Dahlin
Dorothy Paul
Vince Newendorp
Joyce Klein
Timothy Schipper
Mary Ter Louw
Dennis Van Vark
Carma Jean Cade
Bruce Vos
Donna Slagter
Howard Van Zante
Cheryl Bonnema
Mark De Vries
Barbara Heerema
Larry Hiemstra
Bonnie Vos
Steve Roose
Ann Vander Streek
Jerry Heerema
Marcey Overman
Jerry Vander Wert
Ruth Hagens
Shawn D. Kilpatrick
Jeanne Van Zante
Cheri Van Dyk
Cheryl Van Wyk
Verlan Mathes
Cynthia Sue Gifford
Wayne Vander Leest
Colleen Van Ee
John Wilkins
Julie Walvoord
Steve De Jong
Teri Steward
Gary Nieuwsma
Debby Slagter
Donald Sneller
Sandra Klein
Loren De Penning
Lois Kuyper
James Vermeer
Teresa De Jong
Dave Blauw
Denise Reinertson
Don Cowell
Jacqueline Vanden Oever
Larry De Ronde
Rebecca Van Ekeren
Carl Schuring
Glenda Van Waardhuizen
Mark Vandervoort
Beverly Ann Vermeer
Scott Bensink
Marilyn Kay Renaud
Tom Carr
Cindy Van Gorp
Mike De Zwart
Gwendolyn Bowers
Larry Pol
Lavonne Jane Nunnikhoven

James Van Houweling
Greta Vander Waal
Dan Ver Heul
Gayle Roorda
Mike Vos
Jan Vriezelaar
Arvin Bogaards
Leslie Ruth Graham
Bart Harmeling
Kathy Menninga
Charles Hoeksema
Marceta Roberts
Thomas Greving
Diane Dykhuis
Kim Ryan
Rita Trueblood
Randy Visser
Linda Olsthoorn
John Bruxvoort
Dennis Van Wyk

Class of 1974

Scott William Vanden Berg
Eugene Van Berkum
Joel Andrew Van Berkum
Phil Blom
George Verburg
Dennis James Dingeman
John Thomas Downing
Gregory J. Van Dusseldorp
John Malcolm Felsing
David J. Flikkema
David P. Gaass
Bruce Greving
Mark D. Van Haaften
Bruce David Van Hal
Darrell Ray Van Hall
Gary L. Van Hemert
Russell R. Van Hemert
K. Everett Huyser
Dennis G. Janssen
Bryce John De Jong
Burton Kent Joosten
Gary Lee Kingma
Randy Allen Kool
Steven Lee Vande Kraats
Dwight E. Vermeer
Thaddeus Raymond Ferguson Mills
Gary D. Moffet
Alvin John Nunnikhoven
Douglas Jay Nunnikhoven
John Wm. Vanden Oever
Victor L. Vanden Oever
William Bruce Paltzer
Douglas Alan Petersma
James C. Vander Ploeg
Ronald Dean Pothoven
Bruce Allan Roorda

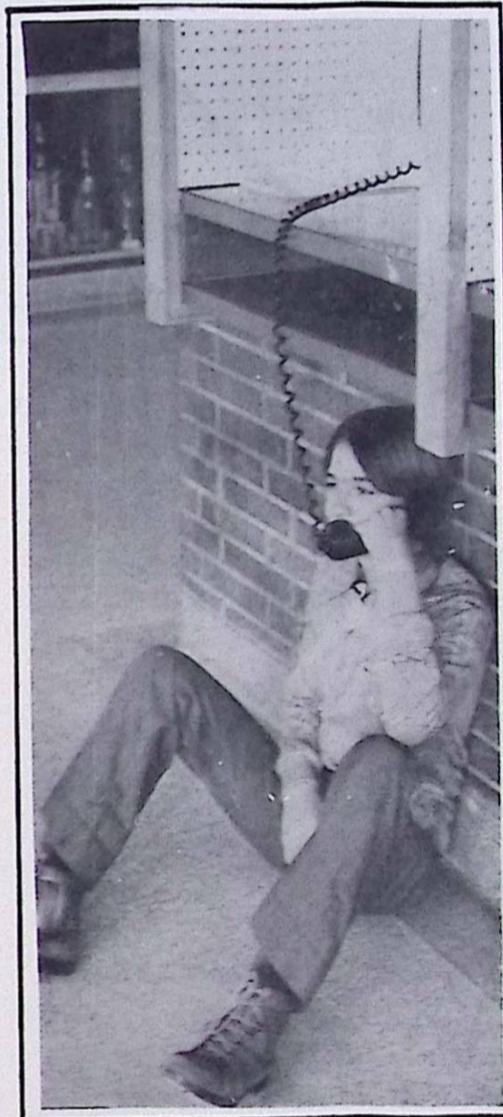
Karl Vincent Schmidt
Leroy Jay Simons
Guy Slaughter
John Gray Smalley
Mark L. Steenhoek
Burl Lynn Sytsma
Bruce Edward Tait
Paul Scott Thomassen
Thomas William Van Tuyl
Brad Van Vark
Keith Eugene Veenstra
Nicholas J. Vink
David Alan Vande Voort
Dennis G. Waits
Craig D. Vander Wert
Daniel Jay Westra
John Clifford White
Dave Wayne Willemsen
Martin John Woensdregt
Milford L. Wuerflein
Bryce Edwin Van Wyk
Galen R. Van Wyk
Glenn Eugene Van Wyk
Ron Van Wyk
Laurel Cornie Van Zante
Dorothy Christine Arkema
Sheryl Lea Boender
Sheryll Van Hemert/Brouwer
Karla De Cook
Kim LuRae Sowles/Crawford
Mary Beth Dahm
Diane Jean Dingeman
Marie Lynn Van Donselaar
Heidi Ann Froelich
Lana Kaye Geetings
Joyce J. Graham
Phyllis Lea Van Haalen
Barbara Lou Hoekstra
Judy Rae Van Rees/Houser
Diane M. Jaarsma
Debra Gale Kaldenberg
Jeannie Klein
Diana De Koning
Lola Vander Leest
Laura Patrice Vander Linden
Lucinda Vander Linden
Sandra Vander Linden
Shirley Ter Louw
Pamela R. Menninga
Vicki Gail Newendorp
Peggy Nichless
Sandra Lee Peters
Linda Kay Pope
Debra J. Pothoven
Sheryl Eileen Renaud
Kim M. Renskers
Debra Jean Rietveld
Donna J. Van Roekel
Mary Joy Roose
Sheryl Lynn Rouw

Brenda Lee Stursma
Karen Sue Stursma
Purita Tejero de la Cuesta
Jana Lea Tysseling
Kathleen Kay Verros
Kathy Jo Vines
Peggy Vande Voort
Melody Sue Washington
Jayne Ellen Van Zante
Janice Elaine Van Zee
Janice Lee Van Zee
Connie Eileen Zickel
Kathy Jean De Zwarde

Class of 1975

Carol Matherly
Meri Lynn Whitaker
Paul Heideman
Stephanie Gay Harvey
David Meyer
Melody Ruth Vanden Oever
Thomas Thies
Connie Lorraine Jaarsma
Donald Joel Brummel
Lynn Hinga
Steven De Vries
Janice De Vos
Kris Dahlin
Melody Judge
Ronda Pope
Ed Van Wyk
Gail Renaud
Ronald James Van Haaften
Janice Van Hemert
Paul Sundberg
Cindy Arkema
Gerald Lee Pleima
Cindy Harrison
Tony Schippers
Lucille Renaud
Paul Murray
Linda Jane Goemaat
Scott De Bruin
Kim Petersma Hand
Mark Koehn
Jayne Sue Steenhoek
Lyle Eugene Vander Meiden
Melissa Willemsen
Mark Van Rees
Nancy Klein
Matthew Weller
Debra Buyert
Joel Lynn Braafhart
Carol Ann Rook
Gordon Lee Graber
Lara Van Wyk
Edwin De Kock

Susán Van Der Hart
Michael Glen Heerema
Denise Postma
Steven George Carson
Kathy Van Waardhuizen
Doug Van Haaften
Jocelyn Mardo De Jong
Kirk M. Caldwell
Cassandra Qualls
Steven Allen Slagle
Gayle De Zwarde
Tim Sadler
Roxanne Jones
Denny Van Zante
Carma Van Zee
Curtis Dean Koopmans
Jean Lori Nollen
Lynne Hoeksema
Mary Beth Overman
Robert Bosch



THE TELEPHONE is an important part of a student's life, both at home and at school. It wasn't until 1937 that all of the Pella schools had at least one telephone installed, according to C.C. Buerkens who became superintendent in that year. This picture was taken at PHS in the 1970's.

Cathy Menninga
Stu Vos
Sharon Groenendyk
Jeff Van Maanen
Sara Schipper
Jack Rempe
Janice Byers
Marla Jean Van Wyk
Rita Fuller
Kristine Ann Liggett
Francis Eugene Whitten
Carol Van Rees
Joe Blom
Susan Murtha
Fred C. Rietveld, Jr.
Sandra Pfadenhauer
Kevin Beyer
Beth Ann Harmeling
Jack Wayne Robbins
Sharon Kay Van Mersbergen
Harris Alvin Steenhoek
Debra Kay Stursma
Scott K. Van Den Berg
Ruth Van Haaften
Robert De Haan
Kathy De Prenger
Tom Edward Kruseman
Diane Van Steenis
Leslie Wayne Nieuwsma
Jilian Hoogenakker
Rod Ruffridge
Dawn Hixson Blom
David Eugene Boot
Carol Kuyper
Larry Dean Goemaat
Gay Visser
Wesley E. Klein
Jacqueline Kay Evers
Doug Slagter
Diana Kaldenberg
Karl Blunck
Sandy Stursma
Mark Lester Groenenboom
Lynn Jewell Cook
Bill Harkins
Joyce Pol
Philip Huyser
Judy Van Wyk
Dwight Steenhoek
Susan Jo Dunkin
Bergen Skaland
Patricia Diane Roorda
Bruce Boertje
Pam Pippel

Class of 1976

Mark David Aldrich
Jay E. Bender

Gary Dean Vandenberg
Curtis Alan Blom
Kenrick Steven Boat
Wayne L. Booy
William Verne Boyd
Craig Steven Buitenwerf
Ted L. Verburg
Gregg Allen Buwalda
Steven Michael Cogley
Steven Wayne Van Dusseldorf
Randy Van Dyk
Donald Lee Dykstra
Paul Glen Flikkema
Dennis Edwin Goemaat
Kevin S. Houseal
Gary D. Janssen
Michael Lee De Jong
Michael Wayne De Jong
Paul Edward Kingma
Perry Glen Klein
Terry Craig De Koning
Thomas Bernard Vander Linden
Steven Lee Terlouw
Stephen Paul Ter Louw
Howard Lee Van Mersbergen
Jeff Naaktgeboren
Randy Scott Naaktgeboren
Bryan James Nunnikoven
Larry Dean Olsthoorn
Douglas Ray Pfadenhauer
Mark Pothoven
Randall Floyd Puyear
Michael Dwayne Schuring
Paul K. Schuring
Ricky Ray Schuring
Marvin Dale Seekamp
Greg Slaymaker
Ron Alan Slycord
Paul L. Vander Streek
Joseph Anthony Thomas
Donald Mark Thomassen
Kent Van Vark
Lee Douglas Vande Voort
Daniel Lee De Vries
Paul Alan Watkins
Mike A. De Wild
Randy Lee Wineland
Bruce W. Van Wyk
Marv Van Wyk
James B. Van Zee
Susan Kay Andeweg
Laurie Jo Andrews
Teresa Maria Battistello
Eileen Gruber Vanden Berg
Kristin Joan Vandenberg
Kimberly Kay Blunck
Joy Evon Bogaards
Barbara Dee Bosch
Julie Marie Brillhart
Vicki Lynn De Bruin

Nina Ede Bruinekool
Julia Ann Durham
Tania Rae Van Dyk
Nancy Beth Dykhuis
Karen Elaine Van Gent
Karen Beth Van Haaften
Lu Ann Harkins
Sherri Anne Hart
Sheryl Ann Vander Hart
Debbie Jean Hartgers
Marue Van Hemert
Lori Jean Hensyel
Ann Mary Hinga
Joy Patrice Honderd
Lori Jean Humphrey
Carolyn Ann Janssen
Mary Joanna De Jong
Sherri Lynn Koopman
Linda Kay Madden
Alyce L. McIntosh
Ann Kathryn Vermeer
Joleen Rae Meulpolder
Vicki Lynn Meyers
Cheryl Lynn Mitchel
Patty Lynn Moffet
Mary Kate Noel
Marla J. Nunnikoven
Lora Renee Vanden Oever
Mary Beth De Penning
Brenda Lea Petersma
Julianne Cook Pohlmann
Diane Marie Postma
Ruth Ann De Prenger
Charlene Joy Renaud
Rebecca Ann Van Rheenen
Elizabeth Ann Rietveld
JoAnn De Ronde
Janice Lee Roorda
Marlyce Ann Roorda
Pamela Sue Sagraves
Rejane Schmidt
Sheryl Annetta Sheaffer
Paula Therese Thomas
Corrine Joann Van Walbeek
Jane Walvoord
Julia Leigh Washington
Jana Lynn Vander Wert
Peggy J. Wesselink
Jeana Weyers
Laurel Suzanne White
Janie Willemesen
Elaine Kay De Wit
June Erlynn Van Zante
Melody Sue Van Zee

Class of 1977

Linda Stursma
Debra Dawn Verros
Kathy Thies



CLASS OF 1977 was the last class to have it's graduation ceremony in the gym.

Mark Bogaards
Wendy Susanne Barr
Doug Vermeer
Karen Frances Koehn
Kelly Jones
Mary Lubbers
Marvin R. Van Wyk
Jim Van Ekeren
Nancy Madden
Denny Van Hemert
Ruth Nieuwsma
Magnus Fredriksson
Karen Sue Furcht
Joel Brillhart
Debra Steenhoek
Tom De Jong
Cindy Booy
Brian Sowles
Lori Ruth Van Vliet
Chuck Van Tuyl
Barbara Dingeman
Kendall Steenhoek
Pamela Joy De Koning
Danny Graham

Linda Kay Pol
Larry Van Houweling
Debbie Dykstra
Lee De Prenger
Julie De Jong
Rick Van Zante
Tanya Valdes
Kent Van Hemert
Tammy Pothoven
Gwynn Boat
Beth Nunnikhoven
Keith Terlouw
Juli Trueblood
David Vos
Jacquelyn Christina Van Wyk
Duane Rempe
Jeannetta Kingma
Verlin Frederick
Rhonda Naaktgeboren
Mark Van Hal
Ronald Jay Brummel
Joel Van Roekel
Mike Ryken
Harlan Olsthoorn

Kristin King
Kimberly Kolenbrander
Terri Lynn Toom
Terri Vander Werff
Bob Van Wyk
Jennifer Hoekstra
Mark De Jong
Ruth Ann Smalley
Mike Jaarsma
Donna Lea Vander Waal
Craig A. Timmer
Dan Murtha
Doraine Meyer
Randy Jones
Barb De Cook
Bryce Renaud
Nyla Alaine Klein
David Steenhoek
Bambi Lynn Moffet
Steve Simoens
Sandra Van Maaren
Thomas Tait
Lenora Kay Van Zante
Ron Kool

Sandi Huisman
Steve Arkema
Debora Myers
Doug De Haan
Barbra Jean Roorda
Mark Vander Meiden
Susan Gay Van Halen
Michael Lee Rempe
Laureen Lou Rook
Keith Van Gent
Lynda Sue Wilson
Glenn Westra
Liz Bruinekool
Rick Van Gorp
Lori Schippers
Steven Jay Seekamp
Kimberly Jo Vriezelaar
Craig Kaisand
Jennifer Rae Harmeling
Jeff Vander Waal
Connie Brouwer
Tim Van Gorp
Tom Vander Ploeg
Gary Visser
Dean Borgman
Jay Vandervoort
Steve Craig Van Wyk

In Memory

The number of Pella students who died during their school years is unknown, but there are several memorials to former students in the schools and on school grounds.

A painting for the high school library was purchased in memory of John Judson Waechter who died in January, 1940, when he was a freshman. He probably had meningitis. When the high school moved to the present building, the picture was hung in the new library.

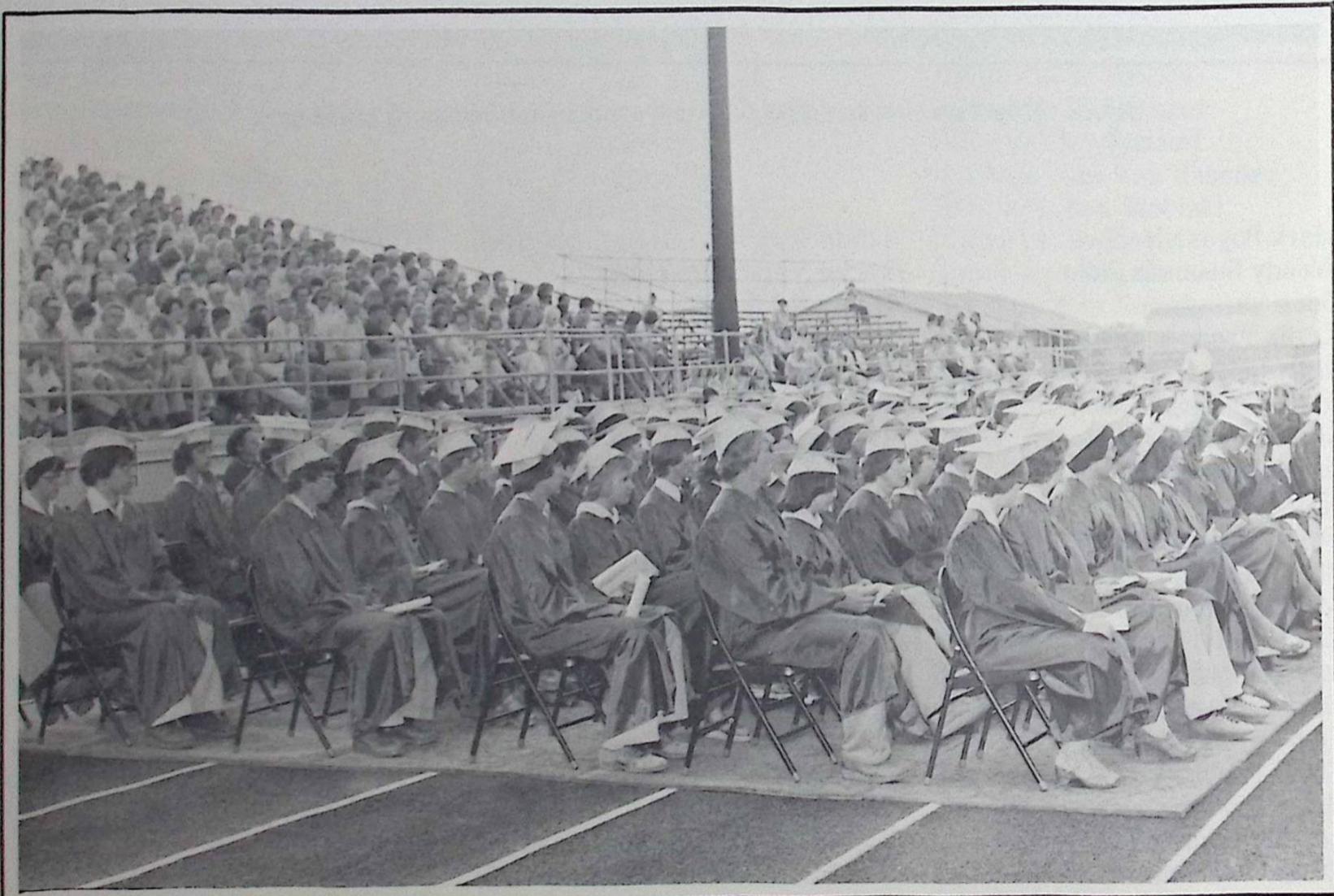
A magazine rack was placed in the high school library in 1956 in memory of Sally Jo Shultz who was killed in a car accident when she was a high school student. The magazine rack stayed in the library for the use of the junior high students and is now used in the same room, the senior citizens'

room in the Community Building.

The scoreboards in the high school gymnasium are memorials. The one on the south is in memory of Vern Newendorp, Class of 1970, and his brother, Larry, Class of 1972, who were killed in a car accident in 1974. The north scoreboard is a memorial to Marvin (Bob) Dingeman who entered PHS in 1938 and was a dedicated supporter of sports in Pella until his death in 1974.

The trophy case in the high school has a plaque in memory of Paul Wilson, Class of 1965, who died while he was in the Armed Forces in 1969.

The flagpole on the football field is in memory of Fred Heerema, Class of 1940, who died in 1977. The trophy case in the corridor of the high school auditorium is in memory of Lee N. Vander Linden, Class of



CLASS OF 1978 may have been the 100th class to graduate from Pella High School. They were the first class to have commencement on the track in front of the new stadium.

1947, who died in 1978.

The two honey locust trees west of the flagpole in front of the high school are a memorial to Diane Van Vark who would have graduated in 1971. She died of leukemia when she was a sophomore.

Two scholarships have been set up as memorials for Pella students in memory of PHS graduates. A nursing scholarship is awarded annually in memory of Mary Evers, Class of 1960, who died after a car accident in 1963 while she was a student nurse. This scholarship is available to students of Pella High and Pella Christian High. A scholarship to be used by a PHS graduate in a trade school or a college is given annually in memory of Jack Cook, Class of 1949, who died in 1975.

Class of 1978

Jan Vandenberg
Lonnie R. Vande Kamp
Carol Vander Leest
Daniel Schuring
Julie Ann Hunsinger
Dana Sue Vriezelaar
Denise Arlene Kaldenberg
Scott Van Weelden
Beth De Jong
Jason H. Vines
Greg L. Allen
Tim Oliver
Kelly Lynn Thompson
Ronald Gene Hoekstra
Brenda Wichhart
Burt Blom
Anita Diane Bennett
Doug Dop
Mary Patricia Carson
Tom Hinga
Debbie Slagle
Steve Boomsma
Patti Moll
Johnathan Joseph Gowdy
Cindy Greving
Stuart Kelderman
Connie Sue Schimmel
Steve Visser
Joan Vanden Berg
Bob Braafhart
Janiece Meulpolder

David Durham
Norma Vander Werff
Douglas Fox
Vicki Goemaat
Wesley J. Swank
Cathy Cook
Rick Bloodsworth
Rita De Joode
Jim Van Donselaar
Brenda Ver Ploeg
Danny Hartgers
Candace Leigh Rempe
Mark Alan Kaisand
Machelle Kay De Wild
Craig Thomas Simoens
Jill Ann Blom
Mark Vander Wilt
Carla Joy Van Hal
Galen Mark Van Zee
Sally Jo Rouw
Craig L. Kooyman
Lori Lynne Wichhart
Curt Rigen
Mindy Marie Roozeboom
Doyle Gene Monsma
Lora Lynn Boot
Mary Kay Van Ekeren
Dave Van Roekel
Carlyn Rae Boertje
Ranita Joan Klein
Darrin Fredrick Meyer
Beth Van Hoeven
Julie Sadler
Linda Nollen
Judy Vander Wilt
Sandy Bowles
Verlan Van De Voort
Dee Ann Borgman
Robert Herman Swank
Kimberly Sue Horman
Paul Barton
Debbie Rouw
Stephen D. Van Hal
Janet Elaine Kruseman
Harold Bevis
Terry Lynn Elsloo
Randy Bogaard
Mercedes Pinto
Chris Van Berkum
Ann Lea Harmeling
Randal Scott Dahlin
Greta Van Gorp
Jay William De Jong
Elizabeth Ann Klug
Curtis C. Van Maanen
Sherry Ann Visser
David Wandling
Linda Buyert
Rick Cowles
Carol Sue Stursma

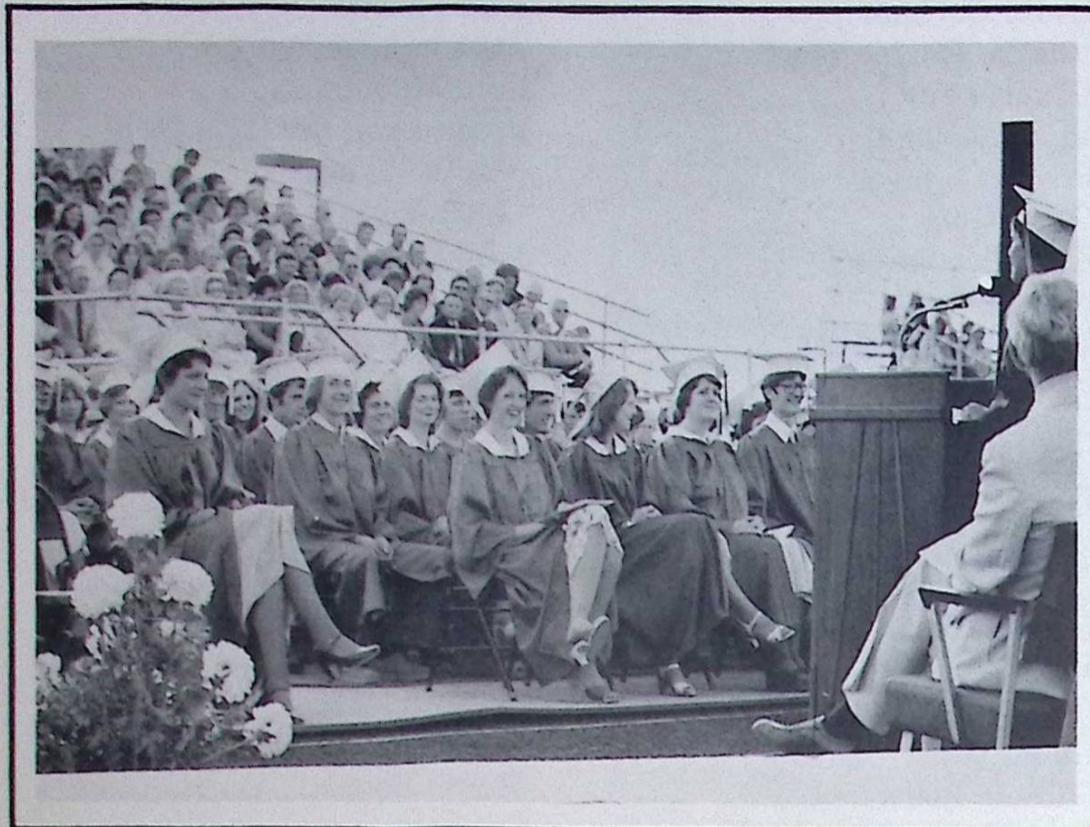
Steve Elsloo
Jean Vander Wert
John Madden
Robin Lynn Van Den Berg
Monte Visser
Cindy Van Hall
John David Cruzen
Beth Keuning
Scott David Groenenboom
Sharon Pothoven
Steve De Jong
Lori Schuring
Jeff Pierson
Sheri Lee Whitaker
Dan Thoreson
Jacqueline Fonteijn
Stan Eysink
Patricia Heschke
Ron Newendorp
Sheryl Booy
Jeff Lent
Carol Gosselink
Arlan De Heer
Barbara Jo Boertje
Dave Van Wyk
Terry Cogley

Banquet Themes

Banquets and proms each spring have had a special theme carried out in decorations, food, music, souvenirs and programs. Examples of the themes: the Indians with little canoes on the tables in 1924, the "Good Ship Adventure" with the sophomores who waited on the tables dressed as sailors in 1934, "Candyland" in 1958 with a replica of the Good Ship Lollipop and the poles in the church basement where the event was held wrapped to look like huge candy canes, and "Southern Acres" in 1960 depicting life on a plantation before the Civil War.

Class of 1979

Harlan J. Den Adel
Karl William Allen
Randy D. Baker
Paul W. Benshoof
Mark Vandenberg



CLASS OF 1979 had student speakers at their commencement at the football field.

Thomas Vandenberg
Graydon W. Bevis
Steven Jeffrey Boat
Anthony G. De Boef
Eric J. Boeyink
Jeff D. Bokhoven
Bruce A. Byers
David Allen Cowles
Dana R. Doty
Brian Van Dusseldorp
Robert Folkerts
Kevin Ray Frederick
Richard Groenendyk
Daniel J. De Haan
Larry Trent De Haan
Arvin James Van Hal
Louis Van Heukelom
Kyle Johann Houseal
Duane Dale Houser
Paul D. Iverson
Don Lee Janssen
Jerry W. Janssen
Scott I. De Jong
Bryan Joel De Joode
Curtis Lee Kane
Stanton Kilpatrick
Kirk Kolenbrander
Keith Vander Linden
Brian Jon Vande Lune
Jay S. McDaniel
Timothy Van Maaren
Randy Van Maaren

Mark Eugene May
Tim Scott Ver Meer
Roger D. Miller
Robert Mitchell
Vaughn Newendorp
Doyle Nunnikhoven
Vernon Nunnikhoven
David Vanden Oever
Stephen Olsen
Paul Vander Ploeg
Scott Alan Rempe
Stan Renaud
Keith Allen Rook
Jerry Alan Roorda
Scott Alan Roorda
Barry Sagraves
Jeff K. Van Sant
Scott Schafer
Steven J. Schnelker
Dennis Lee Schuring
Danny Lee Steenhoek
Ronald Lee Stursma
Evan Martin Thomas
Larry Van Vark
Kenneth W. DeVos
Ronald Waits, Jr.
Michael Van Wyk
Carl John Van Zee
Kevin Van Zee
Steven Vanderzyl
Kathy Jo Aldrich
Rhonda Renee Bak

Terri Lynne Baker
Julie Ann Ballenger
Lori Jane Boyd
Crystal De Bruin
Brenda Sue Buyert
Lisa Jane Dean
Lori Ann Dobernecker
Randa Lea Van Dyk
Barbara Ann Dykhuis
Linda Kay Dykhuis
Teri Joann Eeling
Kathy Van Gent
Mary Beth Gifford
Fana Goitom
RoxAnn Gordin
Julie Lin Gosselink
Karen Vander Hart
Amy Jonel Harter
Julie Ann Heerema
Veronda Joy Hill
Deborah Van Horn
Angela Lynn Hugen
Kathy Jaarsma
Jill Laurie Jansma
Bonnie Keuning
Ruth Ann Klein
Shellie Klein
Jana Ruth Klyn
Carrie Jo Kroes
Marcia Vander Meiden
Marla Kay Nieuwsma
Anna Marie Noel
Mary Ellen Peters
Penny Petersma
Jackie Thi Pham
Dawn Terese Postma
Rebecca Rietveld
Jane Ann Robbins
Deanna Roush
Brenda Lee De Ruiter
Angie Schippers
Gloria Ann Seekamp
Michele Sjaardema
Cheryl Spoelstra
Joleen Beth Steenhoek
Kathy Lynn Steensma
Diane Terpstra
Pamela Sue Toom
Kristine Valdes
Jackie Sue Valster
Mary Van Walbeek
Gerae Wandling
Lynn Van Weelden
Jennifer Westra
Diane Wichhart
Susan Gail Wichhart
Brenda Willemse
Lynda Rae Witzenburg
Rosa Marie Van Wyk
Lori G. Van Zee

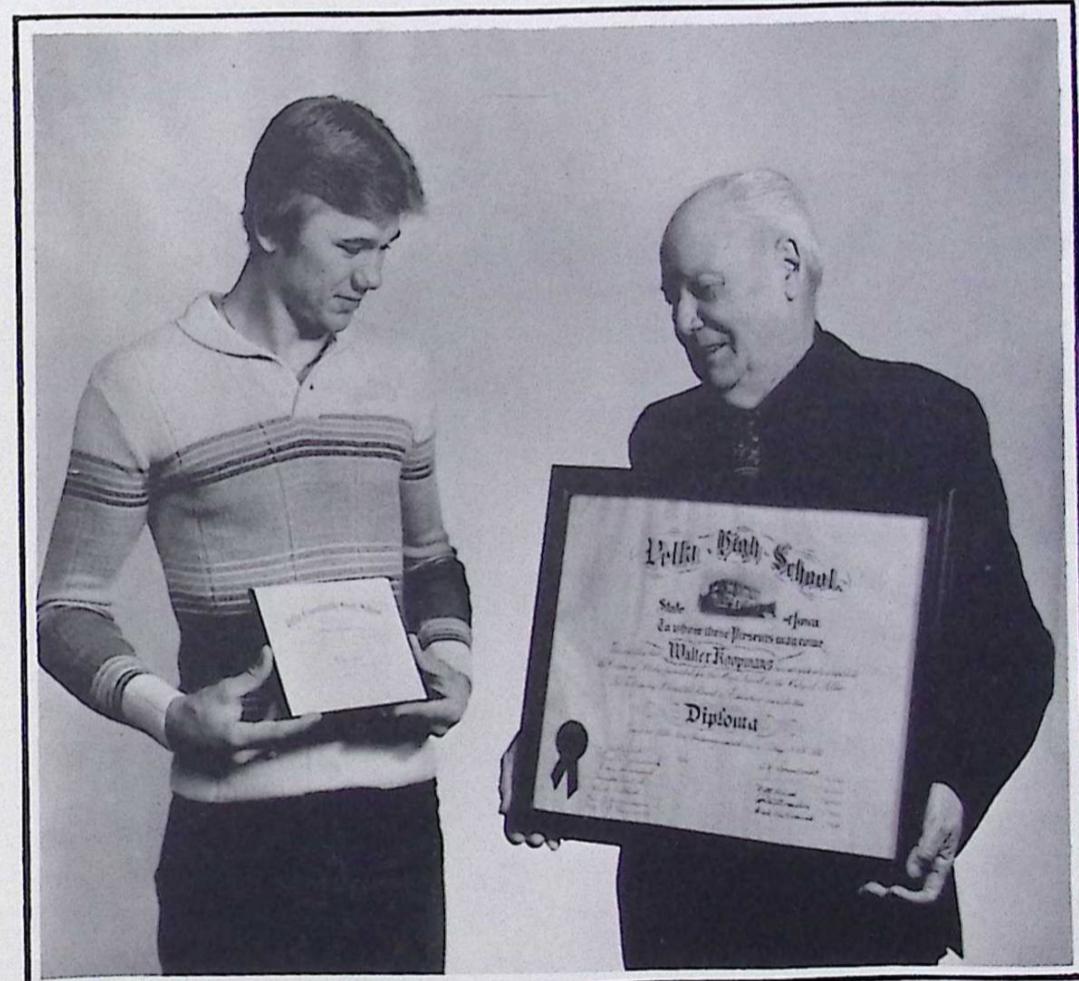
Class of 1980

This is the tentative list of graduates as released by Principal Omer Troyer in April.

Robert Dean Andeweg
Sandra Sue Bailey
Richard Owen Bandstra
Janelle Bender
Roger Lee Boertje
Bruce Leo Bogaards
Peter Douglas Bogaards
Charma Joy Bonnema
Beth Ann Boot
David Soule Bowles
Jamie Lee Brillhart
Andrea Kay Busker
Valerie Lynn Butler
Lori Lee Chambers
Carol Jo Cook
Renee Laine DeBoef
Dawn Angela De Haan
Daniel Wayne Dingeman
Jeffrey Daniel Dingeman
Linda Jean Dop
Sheryl Lynn Eysink
Jim Fisk
Kathy Lynn Harvey
James A. Heschke
Steven C. Hiemstra
John Robert Hill
Laura Ann Hoksbergen
Kathleen Ann Horman
Patricia Lynn Huisman
Dan Allen Hunsinger
Toni Lynne Jayne
Vicky Lee Jones
Tricia Ellen Klein
Greta Mae DeKock
Chizuru Kanemaru
Michelle Lynn Koke
Curt L. Kooyman
Charlotte Claire Liming
Edgardo K. Lopez
Tami Sue Malcolm
Sheri Lynn Matice
Monica Sue May
Steven Michael Mayer
Timothy John Meyer
Suzanne Carol Milianta
Linda Sue Miller
Dianna Lee Mitchell
Andrew Joseph Murtha
Linda Maureen Neil
Lori Lynn Petersma
Peggy Jo Petersma
Bruce Arlan Pfadenhauer
Giup Van Pham
Mary Ann Pol

Jack Pope
Mari Jo Riddle
Jeffery Alan Riggen
Sherry L. Rooda
Brian Eugene Roose
Scott William Rouw
Johnny Ruividotti
Ronald Craig Schuring
Karen Sue Stenner
Debra Sue Stursma
Norma June Stursma
Debra Renae Subbert
Brenda May Taylor
Bruce Randle Terlouw
Brion David Thomas
Kyl D. Timmer
Todd Alan Toom
Gloria Jean Trueblood
Lorrie Lee Vande Kamp
Lori Lynne Vande Lune
Cathy Jo Van Den Berg
Tereva Denise Vander Pol
Jack Lee Vander Schaaf
Susan Kay Vander Werff

Michael A. Vander Wert
Bradley Dean Van Dusseldorp
Linda Lou Van Hal
Keith D. Van Maanen
Daniel J. Van Oss
Jay Christopher Van Roekel
Lori Lynn Van Vark
Lynne Van Vark
Vicki Lynn Van Vliet
Valerie Van Waardhuizen
Alexander Brent Van Wyk
Lyle Eugene Van Wyk
Neal G. Van Wyk
Sandi Renae Van Wyk
Madona Diane Van Zee
Douglas B. Veldhuizen
Kevin Earl Vermeer
Darcy Deann Verros
Daniel Laverne Visser
David Scott Visser
Mike De Vries
Cynthia Sue Waits
Craig Albert Wassenaar
Lori Lane Whitaker



A HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA earned during the first third of this century is an impressive document. Walter Koopmans' diploma, awarded to him in 1926, measures a little less than two feet long. The little ribbons under the seal are black and scarlet, the class colors. At the bottom are the faded signatures of Cornie Wormhoudt, president of the school board; Peter Van Sittert, school board secretary; F. M. Frush, superintendent of schools; R. C. Amidon, principal, and the entire high school faculty. They were Claire Jewell, Tena Doonwaard, Jane Gosselink, Henrietta Ver Heul, Hazel Fulriede, Mrs. Clark Richardson, Mrs. C. H. Hummell and Fred Van Dorninck. Ron Schurring, Class of 1980 compares the 1926 diploma with the one presented to him.

In Dutch

The Settlers' Influence

Dutch Influence on Pella Schools

Merlyn Vander Leest, principal of Lincoln School since 1970, wrote a thesis entitled "Influence of the Holland Background on Education in the Pella Community Schools, 1847-1966" as part of his work to earn a master's degree from Drake University.

He wrote, "One of the reasons assigned for the emigrations of 1846 and 1847 was the desire of many Hollanders to educate their children in the principles of the Christian faith" without government regulation. This philosophy continued to influence the ideas of Pella people about education, Vander Leest concluded.

By studying enrollment records, Vander Leest learned that the Pella schools from their beginning until the 1940's had one of the highest drop-out rates in the state of Iowa between eighth grade and high school

graduation. Based on interviews with school officials, he concluded that this situation was a result of the early immigrants' philosophy that unless a person was going on to college (probably into the ministry or medical school) there was no need to have a high school education. This idea has changed. The high school graduates in 1905 were only 7.2 percent of the enrollment. The Class of 1979 was approximately 25 percent of the high school.

The early immigrants were anxious to learn the language of their new country. The first school classes were taught in Dutch, but as soon as the children could speak a little English, all classes were taught in what the older immigrants called "American." In the 1950's a few of the teachers who could speak Dutch taught some to the children. In 1965 Vander Leest's study indicated that approximately one-third of the children could speak at least a little Dutch. However, he

predicted that the speaking of Dutch in Pella "will soon be a thing of the past." He was right. In 1973 when the sophomore English classes prepared a booklet translating Dutch names into English, less than half of the students knew the English meaning of their own Dutch names. In most cases, the meaning of their own name was the only Dutch these students knew. The project was completed by interviewing older residents of the town.

Although few students in the Pella schools spoke Dutch when Vander Leest made his study, he concluded that the language had affected the English of many of them. He pointed out the problems some students had with the verbs "bring" and "take," noting that in Dutch one word, "bringin," is used to translate both English words. The use of "too yet" and the tendency to end sentences with a preposition were cited as a result of learning to speak English from people influenced

by the Dutch language. These observations are still true in 1980.

Music and religion were important parts of the education of children in the first log cabin schools. Until the 1930's, the school day began with singing and reading from the Bible. Vander Leest pointed to successful music programs and the released time Bible classes still existing as evidence that these ideas continue to be important in Pella schools.

"Students in Pella have had a marvelous opportunity to learn about the historical background of their ancestors," was one of the conclusions of his study.

1980 Names Reflect Pella's History

Class rolls in the Pella schools reflect the 1810 edict of Napoleon that the peo-

ple in Holland make it simpler for him to collect taxes by choosing last names.

In 1973, the sophomores at PHS cut up a Pella telephone book, each student took a section and all did some research and interviewing. A result of their work was a small Dutch-English dictionary with the English meanings of all of the Dutch names in the telephone book. A study of this dictionary shows the ideas which their Dutch ancestors used when they were ordered to choose a surname.

PLACE: These names come from a town or a geographical feature where the family lived. Examples are Van Den Berg which means "from the hill," Van Den Burg" which means "from the town," and Beekhuisen, "houses by the brook." Names which end in -moelen (mill), -dyk (dike), zee (sea) or -hoven (garden), are examples of names that described

where the person who chose it lived.

OCCUPATION: Some Pella people have a name which indicates the job of an ancestor. Examples are Baker, Boertje (little farmer), Paardekooper (horsetrader), and DeWeerd (keeper of the hotel).

ANIMALS: Some individuals chose the name of an animal when they were ordered to choose a surname. Perhaps the name was chosen because the person liked the animal or because he raised those animals. Examples of such names are Vos (fox) and Kooi (cow).

COMMENTS: Some of the Dutch names seem to be based on a philosophical comment that the first bearer of the name wanted to make, such as Niemantsverdrist which means "no man's sorrow." Perhaps Verdught which means "from fear" shows why the first bearer of the name chose a surname.



TULIP TIME, the second weekend of May every spring, gives students in Pella's schools the opportunity to pay their respects to the Dutch founders of the town as well as to have fun and to help entertain the tens of thousands of tourists who visit Pella to see the festival. A survey of the junior class at Pella High School in 1978 indicated that a little more than half the students had at least one grandparent of Dutch descent. The percentage probably holds true for all of the students.



THE FIRST TULIP TIME PARADE and every afternoon parade since then has had the superintendent of schools leading the children of the elementary schools along the parade route. This shot of C.C. Buerkens and the children was taken in the days when the parade went around the square in a counter-clockwise direction; they are walking west along the north side of Central Park.

PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS: Some of the Dutch names are based on physical characteristics. Examples of these names are Baar (beard), De Gues (the giant) and Te Ronde (the round one).

PERSONALITY TRAITS: Some Dutch names describe personality traits of the first people who had the names. Examples are Vroegh (early), Vroom (devout or pious), De Wild (the wild one) and Braaf-hard (brave heart).

RACE OR NATIONALITY: Sometimes an individual received his surname because of his racial or national group. De Joode means "the Jew" and De Vries means "the Friesian."

TITLES: Examples of this type of name are Bricker (citizen), Bisschop (bishop) and Heerema (having to do with a gentleman or herr).

FOOD: Perhaps a person could order a meal based upon foods which were used as names by ancestors of some Pella people. However PHS sophomores who considered the idea were not enthusiastic. The meal would consist of such things as Aalbers (red currants) and Bruinekool (brown cabbage).

NOUNS: Some Dutch names are common words such as Nagel (nail), Needham (comb), Zickle (sickle) and Olsthorn (old horn).

VERBS: Other Dutch names are verbs which probably were chosen because of the person's interests or work. Examples of this type of name are Boender (to scrub), Timmer (to hammer), Wisse (to wish) and Menning (to drive).

HUMOR: Most of the residents of Holland in 1810 took

Napoleon's order to choose a name seriously, but some of them showed their amusement with the whole project by coming up with a humorous name. Best example of this approach is Naagtaboren which means "born naked."

If the first teacher in Pella alphabetized his students' names, he probably did it in the Dutch way, with the Vander Beeks and the DeBoers listed with the Bakers, ignoring such prefaces as De, Te and Vander. The official lists of names of students in the schools of Pella now use the English system of alphabetizing names, with the Van Zees listed in the V's instead of the Z's. Pella High School used the Dutch system of alphabetizing the students' names until September, 1979.

Rural Schools and Reorganization

One out of Many

The Country Schools

Based on interviews with many people of the area who attended or taught in rural schools from the 1890's to September, 1958, when the Independent school districts of Pella, Otley and Leighton plus all or parts of approximately 40 rural school districts became Pella Community School District. ELH

Each of the schools that came into the Pella Community School District had its own history, but they had many things in common.

The little country school houses all had about the same physical characteristics. Each school had different sizes of desks to provide seating for the little primary children, the big eighth graders and everyone in between. In the middle of the room, almost all of the schools had big stoves which provide memories of who carried the

wood or the coal and who sneaked off to play when he was supposed to be out at the wood-pile getting wood for the teacher.

One teacher, usually a young woman, handled all of the grades. Some classes had one or two pupils, some had five or six. During the winter, when young men could not help in the farm fields, attendance increased. While a few children were sitting on a recitation bench at the front of the room, the other pupils were supposed to be studying. For most rural school teachers, the only training for teaching was the Normal Training course they took in high school. The teacher usually rented a room and arranged for meals with one of the farm families in the neighborhood.

All of the former rural school pupils remember carrying lunches to school, sometimes in a lard pail or a tobacco can, sometimes in a real lunch pail. Some schools had the custom of baking potatoes for the

children's lunch on the stove. In some schools, the children had stew on cold days, made with contributions from each pupil or by mothers of the children who took turns taking hot soup to the school for everyone.

Some of the rural schools had a well with a pump, but in most schools, the older pupils took turns carrying water from neighbors' wells. They usually put the water in a bucket suspended on a broom handle carried by two boys. Sometimes the water was kept in a bucket with a dipper; some schools had a large container with a spigot.

Early books of rural school board minutes contain reports on discussions about whether or not to drill a well for the school, install a telephone or put in electricity after the Rural Electric Administration became a reality in the area in 1937.

Discipline is a part of the rural school memories. Sometimes a teacher would ask a pupil to go outside to get a switch to be used on another

pupil. It was a common practice for the switch-cutter to make a few cuts in the switch so that it would break easily when it was used.

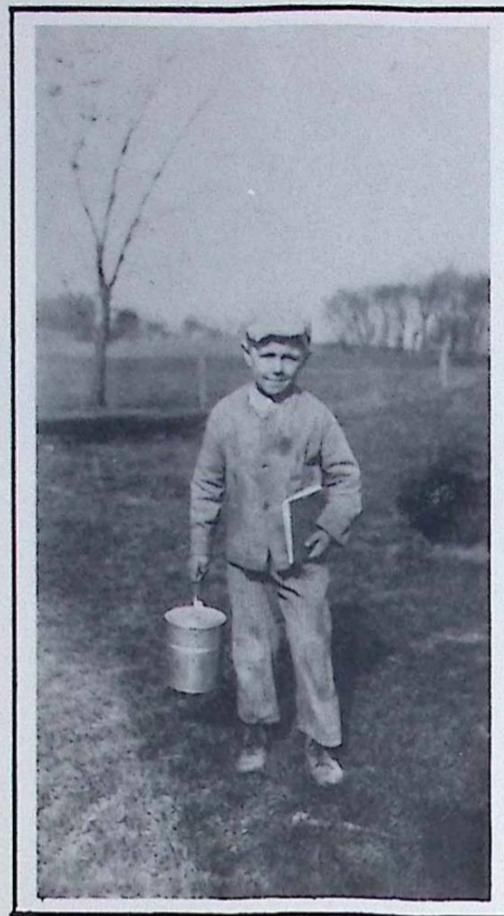
In one rural school in the early years of the twentieth century, the seventh and eighth grade boys often carried their rifles to school so that they could hunt rabbits on the way home. One fall day, the teacher asked one of the boys to stay after school to finish his work. After the other children were on their way home, the boy's buddy returned to the school, pointed his gun at the teacher and ordered her to let the boy leave immediately. The teacher complied with the order, then contacted all of the parents to tell them her new rule: no guns at school.

Another rural teacher remembers the boys who set traps around the school house so that they could sell the furs of the animals they caught. The practice stopped when they trapped a skunk under the school.

Friday afternoon schedules were always special. There were art classes (material furnished by the teacher at her expense), catechism classes taught by adult volunteers from the neighborhood, or books from the Pella library read aloud by the teacher.

The rural school was a social center of the neighborhood. Former pupils and teachers all remember Christmas programs, spelling bees and huge basket-dinners on the school yard the last day of school with parents, pre-school brothers and sisters and other residents of the school district joining the teacher and pupils. On the last day of school, the teacher often gave the pupils a memento, a little folder listing the date, names of all of the children, the events on the last-day-of-school program and a picture of the teacher.

There were parties through-



A LUNCH PAIL was an important accessory for rural children.

out the school year with each school developing its own traditions. Some had big Valentine parties with ice cream furnished by the teacher, others went all out for a patriotic program on George Washington's birthday or a religious program at Christmas time.

Some schools developed field trip traditions, such as visiting the **Pella Chronicle** office, a hospital, a dairy, the post office or the state capital. Every rural school teacher made use of the school yard and surrounding fields for nature study.

After they finished the eighth grade, the pupils went to Pella High School (old Webster School or the one on Union Street) or the courthouse to take the county examination. In Mahaska County, there was a big ceremony for awarding the eighth grade certificate; in Marion County, the children went to Knoxville sometime during the summer to pick up their graduation certificates. Some used the certificate as a memento to mark the end of their formal education, others carried it to Pella High School the next fall so that they would be allowed to enroll.

It is difficult to be certain that all of the information about the rural schools is correct. Many records were destroyed, some records were divided and taken in different directions as souvenirs of a by-gone day, and people's memories sometimes disagree.



THE WHOLE NEIGHBORHOOD got together at the rural schools. This was at Plain View school in 1907.



PLEASANT GROVE PUPILS and their teacher, probably in the 1930's.

Names of the districts contribute to the problems of a 1980 historian. Both Marion and Mahaska Counties had a rural school district called Pleasant Grove which became a part of the Pella district. Richland was the name of districts in both Marion and Jasper Counties, as well as the name of a township in Mahaska County which became a part of the new Pella district.

European School District had three school houses, each of which went by a number and also by a name. Porterville School District later divided itself into a north and a south district and then re-united. Amsterdam District had an East School and a West School for a while. Sometimes, people confused the similar names of these schools.

Deciding exactly how many rural school districts or parts of them were included in the new Pella Community School District is a problem. Most of the area became a new school district all at the same time, August 1, 1958. But small sections, usual-

ly about one or two square miles, were attached to it later. Various people who worked with the project used the terms "school district" and "rural school" interchangably which complicates the counting procedure.

At first, the board of directors of each of the pioneer schools could do things pretty much the way they wanted to. Gradually, the legislature and the Department of Public Instruction of the State of Iowa began passing laws and making regulations that affected the schools. For example, there were regulations about the size of the school yard, the number of months school must be open, how many trees should be around the school.

Until the late 1930's, the contracts for rural school teachers, printed by the State of Iowa, contained a clause nullifying the contract if the teacher married.

In 1935, teachers in many of the rural districts received a pay raise because the legislature wrote a new law re-

quiring a minimum of \$50 a month for rural teachers. Later contracts, in the space where salary was filled in, had a phrase such as this from a 1941 contract: "\$60 a month or more if the law so requires."

The school board secretary often would write on the bottom of the contract: "It is further provided that she do the janitor work."

One of the printed provisions in the contracts for many decades required the teachers "to see that the Flag of Our Country floats over the school house at all times when school is in session and when weather is suitable therefor."

If a teacher were absent, she had to hire her own substitute. In the 1930's, rural school teachers were out in the country searching for members of the school board, trying to get a job teaching some place. In the 1940's and 1950's, the situation had changed, and rural school board members were calling on teachers, begging them to come teach.

All of the qualified teachers in the rural schools in the newly-organized Pella Community School District were hired to teach the next fall in the new district. They were: Ruth Vander Linden, Mable Bogaards,



FLEMING SCHOOL is the background for this picture of one of the girls and puppies in the neighborhood.

Betty Van Roekel, Joyce Schippers, Anna Mae Gosselink, Rena Klein, Darlene Bevan, Mildred De Cook, Thelma Van Hemert and Doris Lee.

I Remember Them Well

By T. T. Verros

This story was written by Mr. Verros when he was 87 years old to be read at the reunion of former students of the Plainview Rural School, October 21, 1972. His memories are typical of several decades of rural school life.

School days at Plainview School. I remember them well. Some 82 years ago in 1890, I started my first day of school. Two neighbor girls, Marie Schakel and Sara Schippers, took me in hand. When we arrived at school, there were several kids around a big elm tree which stood just south of the school house. Some of them I remember — Bertha Ver Meer,

Mary Van Houweling and Jennie Bogaard. They were stripping pieces of bark off the tree and chewing it. Since everyone spoke Dutch outside the schoolroom, someone said, "Geeft dat jongje ok wat." I did not care for the slippery stuff.

A few days after starting to school, I decided I was not going to attend anymore. I did not want to go along with the girls. My father happened to be on the yard, and he picked up a piece of harness strap and gave me one good lick, and I started to go to school without any more trouble.

A school program is always an experience. I remember the first Christmas program I took part in. We performers were lined up at the back of the school room. As our names were called, we walked along the south side of the desks and to the front. I started out with a great deal of bravado, but as I approached the front, my steps began to lag, and my legs were getting a little rubbery. Then I just stood and nodded my head,

but the words of the verse finally came out. It went like this:
I am Saint Nicholas' little man.
My father makes nice toys.
He makes as many as he can
For happy girls and boys.

In the fall of the year during the noon hour we would all climb over the fence and go to the Ver Meer timber to gather hickory nuts. Henry H. Ver Meer knew there was a big tree at the north end of the timber that was loaded with nuts. Henry suggested that John Vande Lune, he, and I go there one day during the lunch break. Because he lived so close to the school, he always went home for dinner. He promised to be back as soon as he could. Even though it was 12:30 when he returned, we started out. We found the tree, Henry climbed it, and shook the nuts off. Such a bounty we had — the ground was covered with nuts. We threw them in our flour sacks as fast as we could, but time was slipping away. Henry didn't want to leave a one because, he said, the hogs would eat them.



PLAIN VIEW SCHOOL was photographed in 1958, just before the building was torn down so that a farm pond could be built on the site.

When we got back to school, half an hour late, we found out that the teacher had seen us go. She said we were old enough to know that we couldn't go that far into the timber during the noon hour, but that she didn't know what to do with us. The next day, she told us that we might not leave the school grounds for the rest of the year.

That was a blow, but the next week when the rest of the students went into the timber, John and I quietly climbed over the fence and searched for nuts under a tree very nearby. The teacher came out and saw us but said nothing. The next time the whole group left the school yard, so did John and I, and the teacher did not call us back.

One day, during the noon hour, all the boys and girls walked to the creek to see Leonard Roovart swim in a small pool. The girls were to stay behind a crab bush while he undressed and got into the water. As it happened, the water was only a foot deep and barely covered his body when he lay down on the bottom, so he declared the water was not deep enough for swimming. We were all disappointed as we expected to see some expert swimming.

Spelling bees for the older children were always fun. Henry H. Ver Meer, Jeanette Onstine, and I frequently came out as the winners. The teacher had promised that the three best spellers in the school at the end of the year would receive a gift from her. The spelling bees were held a couple of times a week. If you were at the head of the class one day, the next time you had to start at the bottom and work up. Each time I managed to get past the poor spellers, and ended at the top-side. My gift at the school's conclusion was an autograph book which I still have with the date 1894 in it.

J. G. Ver Meer was a few years older than I. We all

walked from school to the corner together. One day, in bully fashion, he told me to bring him an apple from our orchard. This I did, but when he persisted each evening in threatening me with some dire misfortune if I did not continue to shower him with a good apple each day, I reported the goings on to my father. He said, "Ya moet hem niet jou so op de kop latte zitte -sloat hem met de kettle."

The next evening at the corner, Jake repeated his request for the following day. I walked through Lover's Lane with Neal and Arnold Schippers, and J.G. instructed those boys to hold me until he could reach me and do the final convincing. As he approached, I took courage and with a mighty swing, I let the lunch bucket land on his head. He made a hasty retreat and needless to say there were no further requests for apples from the Verros orchard. Jake and I have been good friends, ever since.

I can recall several of the teachers who taught during the years from 1890 to 1899. They were Kate De Haan, Anna Duinink, Dora Thomassen, Sylvia Platt, Jennie V.D. Sluis, Jennie Kuyper and Katie Boland. Either the pay was poor at Plainview or we were a mischievous lot, because no teacher seemed to stay very long.

Not all the teachers were good disciplinarians. I remember one who could not keep order. First we would just whisper together, but when no halt was put to that, we began talking out loud, and finally we even moved into the seat with our buddies. The next year the directors saw fit to hire another teacher. This one was Sylvia Plait. We were all looking forward to continuing our hilarity and buddy system of the previous year, so on the first day of school we all sat down in seats close together on one side of the room. But the new teacher had

had a quiet council with some of the directors (Henry De Kock, Henry Ver Meer, Sr. and my father), guessed what the problem was and separated us from our pals, making use of all the seats in the school room. She was a good teacher.

My guess would be that during some winter months, there were as many as 32 pupils in the room. As a boy became older, he often was asked to stay home to work. My father always had 10 acres of potatoes, and when it was time for them to be harvested, I gleefully looked forward to skipping school. The first day of picking up spuds was fun, but by the end of the second and third days, I was begging my dad to let me go back to school.

These were some of the events during my school days at Plainview, before the turn of the century. I remember them well.

Reorganization

Based on school board records, interviews with C. C. Buerkens who was superintendent of schools at the time of reorganizations, files of the Pella Chronicle, Martin Heerema, co-chairman of the reorganization steering committee, and Development of the Iowa Department of Public Instruction, 1900-1965 by Richard N. Smith, published in 1969. ELH

When the first log cabin school opened in Pella in 1847, there were no school district boundaries. The door was open, and anyone who could pay the required fees to the school master could attend.

Soon, Pella had elected Dominie H. P. Scholte as school inspector, and the parts of Marion, Jasper and Mahaska counties which are now in the Pella Community School District were divided into townships, with each township considered

as a separate school district. Pella was in Lake Prairie School District.

Usually six sections of land were in a rural school district with each district building a schoolhouse near the center, placing rural schools two or three miles apart throughout the area. In a few cases, a district had two schools or combined with another district to build a school to serve the area. The prevailing philosophy was that children should be within sight of their home while they were at school.

In 1890 the idea of consolidating several one-room rural schools into a larger school that would include a high school was taking hold in Iowa, but the people of the area around Pella did not follow the trend.

In the mid-1940's, the movement to reorganize the state into community school districts was underway. It was a controversial subject. A few rural schools around Pella had closed, and the districts were paying tuition so the children could attend Pella schools. If eighth grade graduates from rural schools wanted to go on to high school, they chose the high school they wished to attend, and their home district paid the tuition.

In 1956, many people of Pella and the surrounding rural areas believed that it was time to organize a Pella Community School District. Knoxville, Monroe, Lynnville, Sully, Oskaloosa and New Sharon all were studying the possibility of reorganizing and were eyeing some of the rural areas being served by Pella High School as possible additions to their areas. The Iowa Department of Public Instruction and the Iowa Legislature were threatening to start combining small school districts into larger ones if the people did not do it themselves.

People from Pella and the rural areas around it organized a steering committee to study

the subject. Martin Heerema, a member of the Pella school board, and Nelson Vos of Otley, who became a member of the first board elected after school reorganization, were co-chairmen of the steering committee. With members from both town and country, committees were organized to study area and population, curriculum, transportation, finance, buildings and grounds, and graded schools and to inform everyone about what was going on. Families living on the edge of the area being considered for the new district were interviewed, and boundary lines were drawn which would put as many people as possible in the district that they preferred.

Meetings were held in every school house in the area to inform people about plans and to answer questions. One of the most frequently asked questions was "How much will it cost?" School tax rates in the proposed area varied from 3 mills to 54 mills. Although there was some opposition, the idea of reorganization was popular, and when the election was held in May of 1958, the proposal carried by a vote of 1,276 to 217.

All or parts of 37 school districts were in the original Pella Community School District. The new district covered an area of 182 square miles with an assessed valuation of almost 15 million dollars. Living in it were 1,040 elementary pupils and 360 high school students, not counting children attending the Peoria and Pella Christian schools. Later, parts of seven other rural school districts were added.

Voters elected a new school board as provided for in the reorganization proposal — two from Pella, two from the outlying districts, and one at large. The new district became a legal reality on July 1, 1958, and classes started under the new system on Tuesday, September 2. Some of the rural children

were bused to Pella, some were at Leighton and Otley, and the others were in the 16 best rural school buildings which became the property of the new district. The project had little effect on the high school except that the students from the rural areas no longer had to pay tuition.

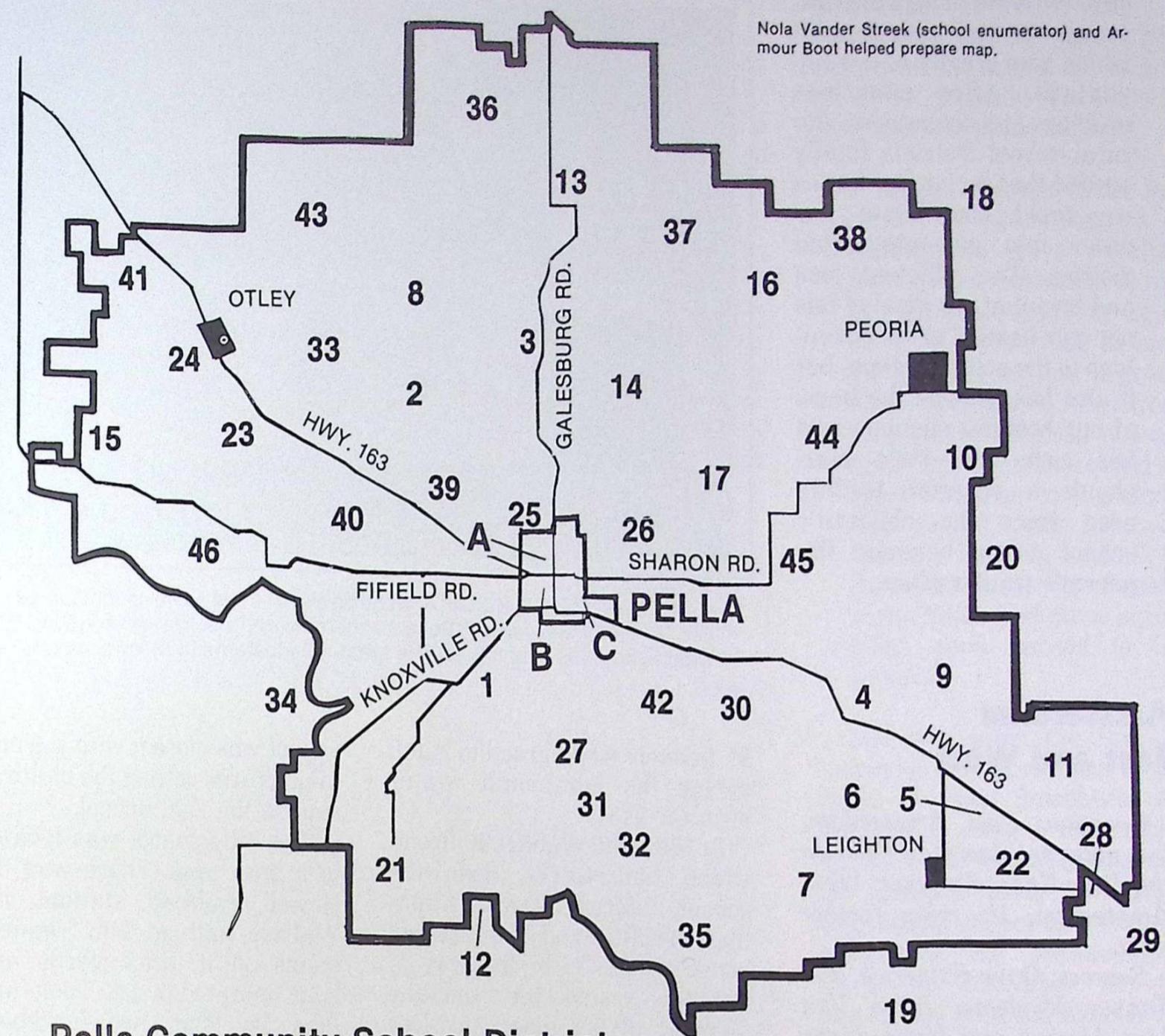
On December 7, 1959, the voters of the new district overwhelmingly approved a \$1,000,000 bond issue for a new high school, an addition to Lincoln, and a new school at Leighton. The bonds could not be sold and construction could not begin because there was an argument about whether 670 acres of land in the Summit School District west of Otley was in the Monroe School District or the Pella District. The State Department of Public Instruction had assigned the land to the Monroe District, and the Marion County board had assigned it to Pella. The case went to a district court, then to the Iowa Supreme Court which ruled in favor of the Marion County Board on June 14, 1960. That cleared the way for the sale of the bonds and the construction of the new schools.

By the fall of 1962, all of the rural schools were closed; the rural buildings, contents and land had been auctioned; the seventh and eighth graders were in a junior high school building (the old high school), and the high school students were in a new building at East 212 University Street. A transportation system of 25 buses had been set up, and all of the qualified rural teachers who wanted to teach in Pella had joined the faculty.

Martin J. Heerema, co-chairman of the Pella School District Reorganization committee, said in 1980:

It is rewarding to realize that our school district turned out to be one of the best districts in the state from a basis of taxable values and

Nola Vander Streek (school enumerator) and Armour Boot helped prepare map.



Pella Community School District

Map shows location of schoolhouses in districts which became a part of Pella Community School District on July 1, 1958 or later. In some cases, a schoolhouse is outside of the present district, but some of the area it served is in the Pella District. If a school went by two names, one is in parentheses.

1. Amsterdam
2. Battle Ridge
3. Bell (European No. 1)
4. Black Oak Center
5. Black Oak No. 6
6. Black Oak No. 7 (Meade)
7. Black Oak - Scott Center
8. Bunker Hill
9. Centennial
10. Cherry Grove
11. Else (Madison)
12. Eureka
13. European No. 2
14. European No. 3 (Mathes)
15. Fair Oaks
16. Fleming
17. Flint Ridge
18. Granville
19. Greeley
20. Hickory Grove
21. Iola
22. Leighton
23. Liberty Corner (Liberty)
24. Otley
25. Pella
 - A. Lincoln
 - B. Webster
 - C. High School
26. Plainview
27. Pleasant Grove (in Marion County)
28. Pleasant Grove (in Mahaska County)
29. Pleasant Ridge (Prine)
30. Pleasant View (Hard Scrabble)
31. Porterville, North
32. Porterville, South
33. Richland (in Marion County)
34. River Ridge
35. Rock Island
36. Rose Hill
37. Sandridge
38. Sheesley
39. Silver Grove, East
40. Silver Grove, West
41. Summit
42. Valley
43. Valley View
44. Warren
45. Wheatgrow
46. Whitebreast

size. We were among the first groups to get re-organized which was greatly to our advantage. After countless meetings and discussions, the rural school districts finally agreed that by joining forces we could consolidate our areas into an outstanding district. The efficient size and layout of our district has not only been of great advantage to the school system, but it also has become the basis of our hospital clientele and has given the Pella merchants a superior trading area since the children's school town became the parent's trading place.



EAST AMSTERDAM SCHOOL southwest of Pella has been preserved and is sometimes used by Pella teachers to give their classes an idea of what school life was like for the great grandparents of today's pupils.

Amsterdam East and West

Location: East Amsterdam, two miles southwest of Pella on the Pella-Knoxville road; West Amsterdam, 1½ miles farther west.

Sources: Gove Kamerick, Iva Tanner Miedema, Alice Van Lint Mathes and Helen Harrington Adair. ELH

The Amsterdam School District was organized in 1874 when the electors in the area voted to separate from Lake Prairie Township District Number Five. The building was constructed by John Toom, just south of his barn, using bricks which Toom made from red clay in the area. Inside were rough wooden benches full of splinters which early pupils recalled had influenced them, along with stern teachers, to sit very still.

The Dutch influence was shown in the choice of the name of a famous Dutch city for the new school district and in the use of the Dutch language in some of the teaching. Some of the first pupils wore wooden shoes to school.

The first teacher was Rufus

M. Snavely who agreed to teach during the four-month winter term for \$132.

In 1881, the Wabash Railroad which had tracks near the school, informed the directors that the little red brick school house would be in the way of the new tracks the company planned to lay along the Des Moines River Valley. The board sold the school to the railroad for \$200. In 1882, the children were in two brand new schools which were built by Beintems and Smorenberg, low bidders, for a total of \$1,010.10. East Amsterdam School was built on a hill north of the new Wabash railroad on a road leading to Pella; West Amsterdam was located three miles west along the Des Moines River on a site near Lake Red Rock.

In 1883, the board voted to spend \$100 for a well at each of the two new schools, according to an old book of board minutes now owned by Gradus Schakel.

Children of the Howell community and the surrounding farms attended East Amsterdam. The school-age population of the West School area gradually shrank, and that

school was closed, with parents taking turns getting the children over to the East School.

The little school was located in a busy area. There was the Howell railroad station, the Wabash railroad with frequent trains on it, brick yards and kilns operated by J.A. Toom and John De Bont, two ferryboat crossings on the Des Moines River, and a saw mill which frequently received big loads of logs hauled by teams of oxen.

Gove Kamerick, who attended the first Amsterdam School, remembered coasting on a farm sled down Amsterdam Hill and ice skating.

Teachers in the old brick school after Snavely were John Gaass, John Whaley, Bullington, Jubberden, Kate Vander Linden and Jennie Fosdeck.

Teachers at East Amsterdam were Mr. Gesman, Marie Vander Hart, Hattie Harmsen, Gertrude Renaud, Helene Boatsma, Mrs. A. A. De Bruin, Nannie Dellan Van Haaften, Hattie Neyenesch, Hattie Van Veen, Ethel Roovart, Irma Visser, Alma Rietveld, Grace Dicken, Madge Feenema, Fern Rietveld, Harriet Toom and the

last teacher, Helen Adair.

One morning Mrs. Adair found stacks of Central College hymnals on the covered porch of the little school — someone's idea of a joke.

Occasionally, the school suffered from attacks by vandals. Mrs. Adair recalls that someone threw a large rock enclosed in concrete which had broken from the school's foundation through one of the windows, scattering shards and slivers of glass over the entire school. Classes could not be held in the glass-covered room until neighbors carrying vacuum sweepers collected all of the broken glass.

In 1958, the district became a part of the reorganized Pella Community School District, but it was used for some classes until May of 1960.

Since then, the school building has been maintained by neighbors in the area and is now owned by the Pella Historical Society. It still contains the old stove, desks and other items used during its last years as a school. Since the building ceased to be used as a school, it has been used for church services, Sunday School, neighborhood gatherings and reunions.

Battle Ridge

Location: Six miles northwest of Pella in section 19 of Lake Prairie Township in Marion County; it has been remodeled into a house.

Source: "Battle Ridge School History," a booklet of pictures and reminiscences from former teachers and pupils, newspaper articles and excerpts from board minutes; compiled by Leola Niemantsverdriet Klein, and edited by Vernon Wieland and Raymond Den Adel in 1976. ELH

Children of the area which became Battle Ridge School District began attending a private school in a farm house on land now owned by Eugene Kaisand about 1865. That school continued until the farmers of the area bought three-quarters of an acre from A. P. Hasselman, A. C. Hasselman and his wife, and J. Schippers in 1871 and built a one room school. The land is now owned by C. W. De Geus.

How the school got its name is pure speculation — perhaps from the battle stories coming from the Civil War, maybe from

a feud or perhaps from stories of Indians.

On December 12, 1933, a fire destroyed the school house and all of its contents. The story in the **Pella Chronicle** reports:

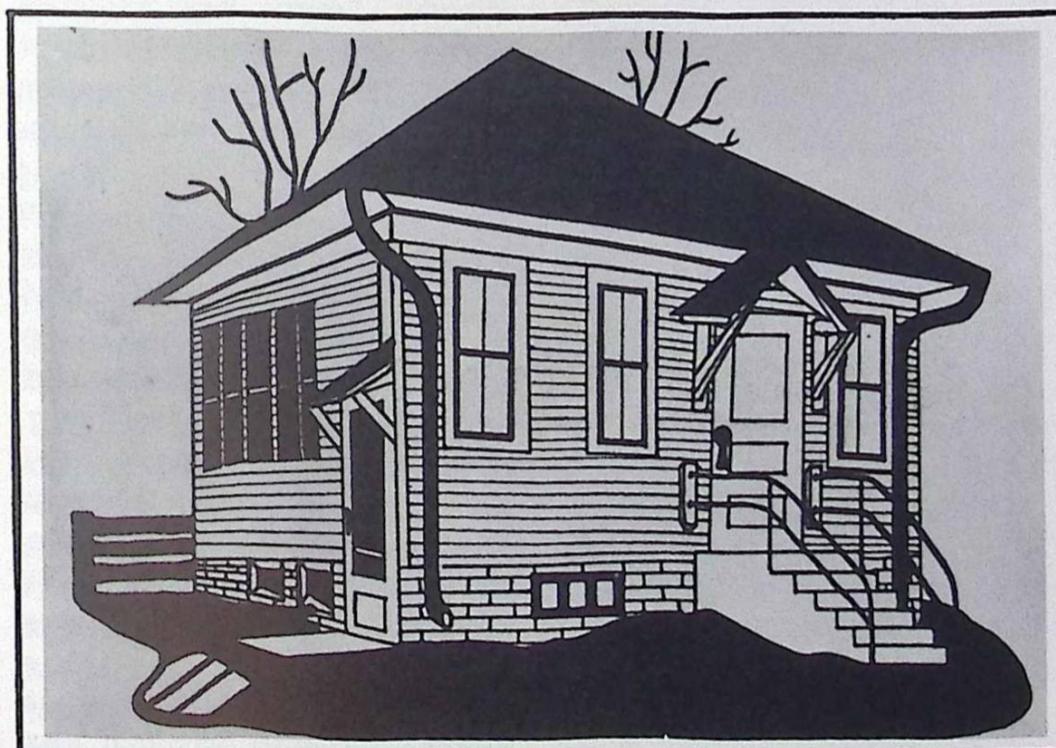
While the cause of the fire cannot be determined, it is believed to have resulted from a stove explosion. A fire had been started in the stove early in the evening to heat the building so that a group could rehearse a Christmas program to be given a week later. The fire, discovered by Gary Van Zee at 7 o'clock, had gained such headway that the building and all its contents, consisting of seats, many books and other equipment, soon burned to the ground.

The day after the fire, 23 voters of the district met at the home of Hugo Steenhoek and decided to erect a new school on the site of the old one as soon as possible, using the \$1,200 they would collect on insurance purchased the previous January. By December 23, the board had received bids for the new building and awarded contracts.

The eighth graders, who were anxious to pass the county examinations for eighth grade graduation certificates, met regularly in Pella at the home of their teacher, Mrs. Gerrit Steenhoek; the other children had a holiday until the basement of the new school was ready for use about a month later.

Annual events on the school's calendar were a Thanksgiving program, a Christmas program, the visit of the county superintendent of schools who had his office in Knoxville, and a neighborhood potluck dinner on the last day of school.

In addition to the fire which destroyed the school in 1933, there were at least two other fires at the school. In 1904, a big



TYPICAL of the rural schools built during the period was the one constructed in 1934 for the Battle Ridge District. The drawing was made by Kathy Van Roekel for a bicentennial booklet on the school's history.



BATTLE RIDGE SCHOOL which was destroyed by fire in 1933 was the background for the 1909 picture of the children and their teacher, Mons S. Quam.

hole was burned in the floor of the school in front of the stove. In 1924, a fire apparently destroyed some of the contents of the school and the early records.

Mrs. Klein's excerpts from school board minutes included in the 1976 history of the school provide these bits of history:

In October, 1925, a telephone was installed in the school, to cost \$15 a year. In November, 1930, the directors voted to install a merry-go-round on the playground.

In May, 1936 at a special joint meeting between the Battle Ridge board and the Silver Grove board, it was voted to have two pupils from the Silver Grove area attend the Battle Ridge School. In March, 1941, the board voted to have electric lights installed in the school if the rates did not exceed \$2.50 a month.

In July, 1950, the budget estimate called for \$3,100 to

run the school for the year. Of this amount, \$440 would be state aid.

March 10, 1958, school patrons had their first meeting to discuss reorganization which would make the district a part of the proposed Pella Community School District.

The school operated for two more years, the last year as a part of the Pella Community School District. Some of the students attended the Silver Grove School for the 1960-61 school year; since the fall of 1961, all of the children of the area have been bused to the Pella schools.

In July, 1976, 90 former pupils and teachers of Battle Ridge School had a reunion in Pella; they plan another reunion in 1981.

At least one family had children in the school for four generations — Mrs. Jane Cuperus Menninga, born in 1860; John Menninga, Vernon

Menninga and Vernon's children, Twylah, Marla and Laura.

An incomplete list of teachers of Battle Ridge School in the order hired with dates when first hired by some of the names: George Kimbol, Frank Wright, Laura Fisk Dykstra, Lorna Lewis, Govert Hackert, Gerrit Bos, George Neimeyer, Maude Todd, Menerva Pugh De Bruin, Gertie Ver Steeg Kamerick (1898), Bert Kersbergen, Mons S. Quam, Gradus Vriezelaar (1910), Hattie Neyenesch Van Wyk, Gertrude Den Hartog Hoksbergen, Albert Vander Ploeg, Josie Thomassen Dykstra, Minnie Gaass Ryken, Maggie Vander Linden McCracken, Anthony Hospers, Gertrude Renaud, William Onstine, Laura Verrips Verhey, Cora Hoogenakker Graff, Jennie Kuyper, Caroline Brummel Van Weelden, Pearl Steinkamp Sedrel, Jennie Van Osstrum Van Zante (1922), Lucy Hoksbergen

Bennick, Arthur Sels, Rosetta Walraven Kolenbrander, Avis Van Howeling Van Zomeren (1926), Alma Rietveld Ver Ploeg, Olive Schakel Palmquist, Leona Arens Van Rees, Antonette Rietveld Vander Wal, Janet Grootveld Steenhoek (1932), Mae Vogelaar Vande Noord, Henrietta Van Roekel Van Zante, Jeanette Vander Wal Ver Meer, Anna Slocum Koons, Alice Postma Kaldenberg (1941), Eleanor Ver Ploeg Gaass, Henrietta Van Roekel Van Zante, Marjorie Boot Vos, Agnes Vander Hart, Lena Hoksbergen Van Rheenen (1955), Florence Hackert Van Gorp, Anna Mae Vande Noord Gosselink (1956).

The Bell School

Location: Three and a half miles north of Pella on the Galesburg road in Section 22, Lake Prairie Township.

Sources: Research by Harold and Marie Veenstra including a scrapbook owned by Janet Van Waardhuizen, Souvenir History of Pella, 1847 to 1922, History of Marion County, interviews with former pupils in the school and some of the old record books. ELH

The official name was European #1, but almost everybody called the little white frame school north of Pella near the Skunk River The Bell School because it was the only school in Lake Prairie Township to have a bell installed on the roof.

The school district apparently was organized about 1854 and called the Vos School. The secretary of the school board during the early years of its history received \$15 a year; the treasurer received one and a half percent of all the funds he handled.

One of the first teachers in the school was N. J. Gesman, Sr. who taught from 1861 to 1864;

his salary was \$15 a month. In 1867 he became editor of the **Pella Gazette**.

Minutes of the school board for 1882 indicate that the teacher was being paid \$25 a month with \$5 extra during the winter months when keeping a fire going in the schoolhouse stove was an added duty for the teacher. The entire annual budget was \$750.

The second school house, the one with the bell on the top, was built in 1870 on a plot of land 174 feet by 72 feet which had been purchased for \$10.

The name for the district was chosen in 1874. Apparently the directors of the district wanted to recognize that there were children of English, German and French descent in the school as well as descendants of the Dutch immigrants.

John Den Adel, who was a pupil in the school in the 1890's recalled that an energetic teacher rang the big bell on the roof so hard and so fast one time that the bell tipped upside down and stuck. A man named

John Stursma working on a nearby farm volunteered to climb up to the roof to fix the bell while all of the children stood in the schoolyard watching. After he had completed the job, he looked down from the high roof and was afraid to climb down. Another neighbor, Walter Den Adel, climbed up to help him down.

In the last quarter of the nineteenth century, there usually were 30 pupils in the school. Teachers usually stayed in the homes of farm families in the area. Sometimes, the teacher would drive a buggy or ride horseback to the school from Pella.

Henry Beyer, who attended the school shortly after the Civil War ended, told a **Chronicle** reporter in the 1930's that swimming in the nearby Skunk River was a popular activity for the boys. This was in the days before swim suits, he said.

Mr. Beyer recalled a teacher whose method of punishing the pupils for misbehavior was to have the offender stand on a



ALL OF THE RURAL SCHOOLS HAD SOME KIND OF BELL, but European No. 1 was the first schoolhouse that had its bell on the schoolhouse roof. This picture was taken during the first decade of this century.

seat with a book on each uplifted hand. If the pupil showed signs of lowering his arms, the teacher would tap the offender's elbow with a ruler. If the person being punished was a girl with a hoop skirt, the boys behind her "had the opportunity to get rid of some surplus energy without the teacher seeing them."

In the mid-1940's, the children began riding ponies to school. One boy used a bicycle. The ponies were used until 1954 when the school district directors decided to close the school. The younger children were sent to European School #3, and the seventh and eighth graders joined the high school students who were going to school in Pella.

After the school became the property of the new Pella Community School District, the building, most of its contents and the land were sold at auction. Myron Nollen bought the land and the school, planning to maintain it as an historical site. However, not enough interest was shown, and in 1960, the building was sold and torn down, and the land became an Iowa cornfield.

The large old bell was given to the Pella Historical Society, and it now hangs in the belfry of the replica of the Scholte Church in the Pella Historical Village. The clapper is gone. It was stolen years ago as a Halloween prank.

Oldest living person who attended The Bell School is Mrs. Dan (Lena) Dieleman, Sr., 95 years old.

Black Oak Township. It was located on the farm originally owned by John Smith and was on Highway 163 five miles southeast of Pella.

The first building of which we have knowledge was built before 1885. This was a typical one-room frame building with six windows, three on each of the opposite sides, with a large cloakroom at the entrance. The schoolroom was heated by a pot-bellied stove which stood in the center. This building was replaced in 1941 by a new building with many more windows, a full basement and an oil-burning furnace, but still no running water or plumbing. This building still stands on the grounds and is being used as a private home, following some remodeling. The building and equipment, including the flagpole, were sold at public auction when the district was incorporated into the Pella Community School District in 1958, except such equipment as the Pella system could use.

The school usually had a large enrollment so that very often all eight elementary grades were included, plus kindergarten in later years. At

one time 35 pupils were enrolled for the year plus three who attended during the winter months. Consequently, teachers were busy.

Almost all students walked to school except in heavy rain or snow or severe cold when parents provided rides. A few rode ponies regularly in some eras.

All students carried lunch pails (many were Prince Albert tobacco pails). There was no well so water had to be carried from the nearest neighbor and was stored in a large water cooler with faucet. In early years there was only a bucket and dipper. Each child was expected to provide his own cup.

Playground equipment consisted of swings, teeter boards, and baseball equipment. Ball was a favorite sport, but tag and other games were also enjoyed. In winter the favorite was coasting.

Textbooks used in the various subjects were changed about every five years. Parents purchased the textbooks for their own children. There was a library of reference and other books, but we do not know how adequate. Music included open-



BLACK OAK CENTER pupils, 1917.

Black Oak Center

By Henry A. Van Roekel

Black Oak Center was undoubtedly named because of its location at a point which is almost the direct center of

ing the day's session with group singing. Often a pump organ was used, but later phonograph records were used to teach.

Highlights to almost all school children and the community as well were the programs held twice a year, one at Christmas and one on closing day. The latter included a picnic dinner and an afternoon of community fellowship at Black Oak Center.

Occasionally, a band of gypsies would camp at night on the school grounds. Some would be reluctant to leave when the school children arrived, but nothing serious ever happened.

Board members with long tenure in office were J. C. De Bruin as president, G. J. Van Roekel as secretary and S. S. De Cook as treasurer. Each of them served for over 30 years.

Descendants of six families who were living in the Black Oak Center District at the turn of the century are still living there. They are Albert De Bruin, J. A. Ver Meer, Gene Meinders, Henry Van Roekel, S.G. De Cook and Alvin Vander Wilt.

The teacher from 1903 to 1910 was Agnes Pinkerton Jansen Weyerse. All of the pupils in the school were Dutch, and many of them could not speak English, so she decided to learn Dutch. She boarded with a Dutch family who helped her learn their language. For many years, she used her knowledge of the two languages to tutor immigrants. Mrs. Harlon (Joan) Vander Schaaf was teaching when the school closed at which time 10 pupils were attending.

Cornelius Dykstra donated the parcel of land for the original Black Oak Number Six School, probably built in the 1890's. The first school building was a typical one-room school with a cloak room for the pupils' dinner pails and their coats and boots. There was a pot-bellied stove in which the teacher started a fire each morning, banking it at night before she went home.

"Home" for the teacher usually was at the nearest farm house from Monday through Friday with a trip to her parents' home on the weekend. All of the teachers were women, and one of the requirements was that she be capable of playing the pump organ, at least with one hand. In later years this was not required as a phonograph was provided for the teacher's use. Occasionally, when the weather was so bad the children couldn't go out to play, and if they had been obedient, the teacher would let them play records and sing during recess and the noon hour.

In 1924, a new school was erected by Jim Visser and Meindert Stowie of Leighton. Shortly after it was finished, someone stole all the windows. The culprit was never apprehended.

In later years when the highway was widened, the school had to be moved. The money the Highway Department gave the school district for the land was used to build a basement with a cement floor, a well, and a furnace for the old building in its new location. Then, during inclement weather, the pupils had a basement to play in. It was used for community potluck suppers which usually took place two or three times a year.

School attendance varied through the years. In the 1950's, the board members thought they might have to close the school because it was down to the minimum number of pupils allowed by the State Depart-

ment of Public Instruction; however, a large family moved into the neighborhood, assuring the school a supply of pupils.

Grades were from one through eight. Children either walked to school or were taken by their parents with neighbors taking turns.

In the school's early years, the library was very small; books were taken to the school by the teacher from the library in town to be read and returned. A few library books were owned by the school. In later years, the board purchased a set of encyclopedias and added books periodically.

In the early days, discipline left a lot to be desired since the eighth grade boys often were taller and, in a few instances, older than the teacher.

In 1939, after school had been dismissed for the day, the stove overheated and caused a fire damaging the roof. The fire was contained by the neighbors who carried buckets of water to the roof, and the fire department was not called. A new school was built in 1941.

Teachers from 1907 until the school closed in 1958 included: Ruth Ellis, Geneva Orvis, Hester Ossewaarde, Hilda Den Hartog, Jeanette De Jong De Vries, Marie Vander Hart, Nellie Van Haften De Geus, Jane Gosse-link, Ruth Stegner, Eva Tysseling, Bess Synhorst McBride, Elizabeth De Wolf Bosch, Josephine Van Heukelom De Jong, Mabel De Jong Van Arkel, Junella Van Maanen Conrad, Velma De Pringer Rempe, Florence Wouda, Blanche Hale, Ursula Clayworth, Mrs. Thomas Mott and Ruth Van Houweling Rempe.

When the school was absorbed by reorganization into the Pella Community District, the building was purchased by Tunis Dykstra and dismantled. The basement was filled in with dirt, and the area now is used as pasture. His daughter has the bell and belfry in her yard.

Black Oak Number Six

Location: Two miles northeast of Leighton on Highway 163.

Written by Mrs. Clarence Den Adel, using information from Tunis Dykstra.

The desks, books and other items were all sold at auction.

Black Oak Number Seven

Location: In Mahaska County, east of Pella on Highway 163 about eight miles to Trailercourt, then south about one and a half miles.

Source: Mrs. John Boerefyn of Leighton who attended the school during the second decade of this century. Her mother, Minnie Meppelink Van Heukelom, who also attended the school, was the last treasurer of the school district. ELH

The location of the school made it easy for the children to get to school in the winter time — they sat on their sleds and coasted to school. Getting home was a different situation.

Children were called to class from the big playground by the ringing of a handbell. Inside, was a bucket for water, a few shelves called "The Library," a big stove in the middle of the

room, and a shelf for the pupils' lunch pails along with the desks and recitation bench.

Highlights of the school year were the Christmas program and the picnic at the end of the year when the children's mothers brought big baskets of food which everyone ate from tablecloths spread on the grass on the playground.

The school closed in 1935, and the district began sending the children of the neighborhood to rural schools in nearby districts or to Pella or Oskaloosa. The building was sold at auction and dismantled. The last three graduates were Carl Van Donselaar, Ralph Kruseman and Raymond Newendorp whose last teacher was Mable De Jong Van Arkel.

The first teacher listed in the old school treasurer's book was Olive Ryan, 1902.

Other teachers from then until 1918, listed in the order in which they served, were Cornelia De Cook, Dot Mendenhall Myrle Hess, Gretta Vande Haar, C. V. Ryan, Carrie Van Zee, Dena Ver Hey, W. E. Reed, Ethyl Walker, Letetia Brunia, Henrietta Brunia, Evelyn Shomaker, Kathryn Pogge, Minnie

Van Heukelom Drost, Ida Swittes, Cassie Clark, June Thomas Grandia and Lena White, the last name in the old record book.

Black Oak Scott Center

Location: Go six miles east of Pella on Highway 163 to Black Oak Corner, then two to three miles south in Mahaska County.

Sources: Henry G. Rempe, a former school board member of the district, and Mrs. Rempe (the former Ruth Van Houweling) who was the teacher there from 1930 to 1933. ELH

The little white frame school house had a big name, Black Oak-Scott Center, because it was located on the border between the two townships of those names.

For most years of its existence, the only playground equipment was a fence made of steel pipe separating the school from the road. The children used the fence for all kinds of gymnastics and games.

The school never had any electricity. For years it was heated by a coal stove in which the teacher built the fire. Later, the board bought a fuel oil stove for the school. There was no well; the children took turns carrying water from a neighbor.

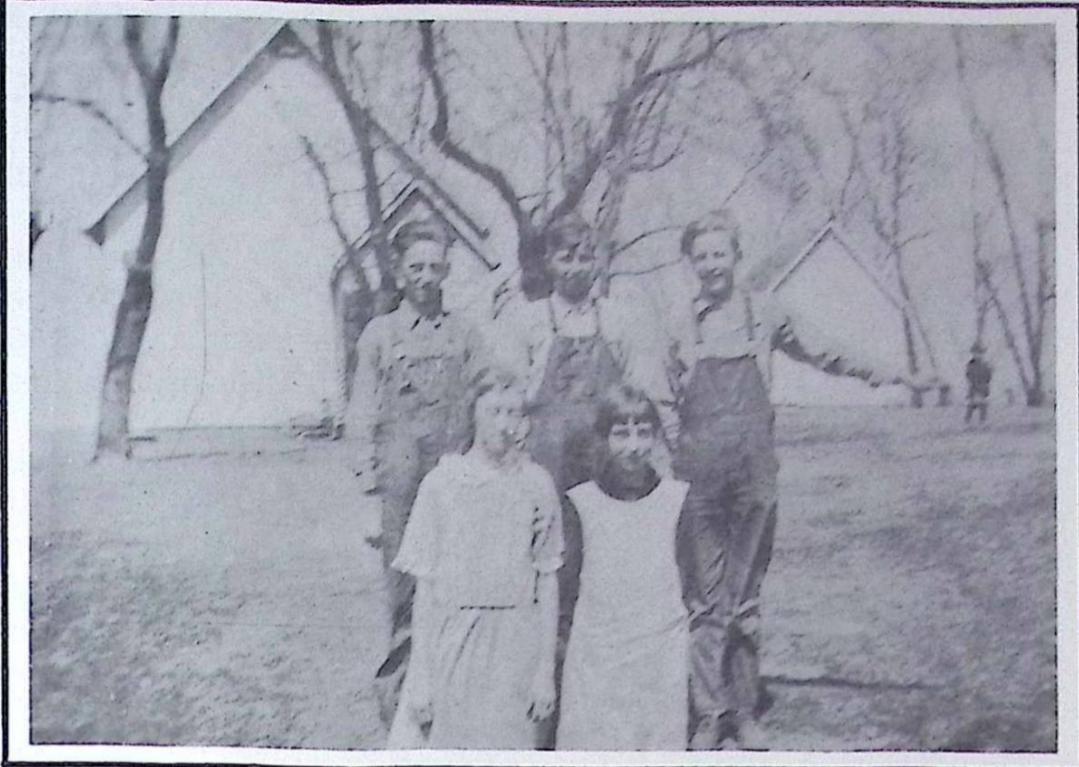
Most of the pupils walked along muddy or dusty roads to go to the school, but some of them rode ponies.

One corner of the schoolroom was called "The Library" because a few shelves of well-read books were there. Art classes every Friday afternoon was a favorite time for most of the children.

A high point of each year was the program and party just before Christmas vacation



IN 1911, the children of Black Oak School Number Seven lined up so that their teacher, Bess Pippel, could take their picture.



EIGHTH GRADERS at Black Oak-Scott Center.

began. The teacher usually gave a small gift and some candy to each of her pupils. On the last day of school, everyone in the community took a basket of food to the school for the annual school picnic with the teacher furnishing the ice cream.

"The building was on fire twice before our time, but never burned completely," Mrs. Rempe said.

Among the teachers who served the school were Bertha Van Zante, Mae De Prenger Hasselman, Ruth Van Houweling Rempe, Esther Grootvelt De Zwarde, Betty Rempe Van Maanen, Ruth Van Essen Barnes, Edna Goemaat Van Wyk and Lillian De Prenger.

When the school closed, the building was sold to Anthony Ver Meer who moved it to his farm to be used as a hog house.

Bunker Hill

Source: A report prepared by Minnie Van Gorp Dahm for a reunion of pupils of the school held at Swimming Pool Park in August, 1966. The flag pole at Swimming Pool Park is the pole which was in the school yard at Bunker Hill for many years.

The tract of land where Bunker Hill School was built was purchased from the United States government on May 1, 1855 by Johannes Hendrikus Schyff. The deed was signed by President Franklin Pierce. On September 11, 1858, Schyff and his wife, Gertrui, sold one acre of the farm to the school district of Lake Prairie Township for a school which at first was simply called Number 68 since it was the 68th school district formed in the State of Iowa.

The school's site on a hill plus the interest of the students in history later gave the school the name Bunker Hill.

Definite information of the early days of the school district was lost in the 1930's when workers were sorting papers in the courthouse at Knoxville. During the lunch break a janitor misunderstood instructions and hauled the barrel of papers to be saved to the furnace instead of the barrel of papers that was to be thrown away.

In the 1880's, the first red brick school had been replaced by a frame school with a pot-bellied stove, kerosene lamps, water from a neighbor's well, slates for the pupils, and a recitation bench at the front of

the room. The student who lit the stove each Monday morning received 50 cents a year for the service.

Some years, there were no eighth grade graduates, because students tended to drop out when they tired of school or when their parents needed them at home to do farm work.

During the last decade of the 19th century, the school had a teacher who held night classes for people who wanted to study arithmetic. He had the students rub the points of their pencils on pieces of sandstone to sharpen them.

Bible readings, hymn singing accompanied by a pump organ and memorization of Bible verses were a part of the education program at Bunker Hill.

When Minnie Dahm was teaching at Bunker Hill from 1918 to 1928, she had children in her classes who were the third generation of their family to attend the school.

An incomplete list of teachers of the school, by decades:

1868 - Luella Keables, Mary Nutt.

1878 - Maggie Davis, Frank Wright, Lincoln Amsberry, Allen Nossaman, L.A. Garrison, Ora King, D.W. Langerak.

1888 - Jennie Rhynsberger, Dirkie Rietveld, Mary Renaud, Fred Voorhees, Albert Crosby.

1898 - Laura Fisk, Hattie Harmsen, Lena Braam, Govert Hackert, Cora Hoogenakker, Leona Reuvers.

1908 - Lena Feenema, Cornelia Hespers, Caroline McIntire, Lula Stuff, Margaret Den Burger, Virginia Ackley, Winifred Marshall.

1918 - Anna Brummel, Sam Ver Steeg, Celia Keuning, Minnie J. Van Gorp, Alma Rietveld, Dorothy Van Ommen.

1928 - Glenn Hollingshead, Agnes Van Zante, Margaret Hiemstra, Antoinette Rietveld.

1938 - Florence Hackert, Theresa Van Heukelom, Mrs. Charles Klein, Marie Hol, Ruth Vander Linden, Mrs. Ed Kooi.

1948 - Vada June Hughes, Joyce Schippers, Opal De Heer, Johnita Van Wyk.

At the turn of the century, teachers at the school were receiving \$22 a month. In the 1930's, it was \$40 a month. By the time the school closed in 1958, the teacher was earning \$350 a month.

In the fall of 1958, just 100 years after the first classes at Bunker Hill School, the school closed and the children of the district began attending classes in Pella because of school district reorganization.

spelling and civics. Dismissal was at 4 o'clock except on Fridays when the teacher dismissed the pupils 30 minutes earlier so that she could start for her home.

During the week, the teacher boarded at the home of one of the neighboring families, paying about \$2 a week for food and a place to sleep.

In the early years, before a well was bored on the school ground, once a day two boys were excused during school hours to get a bucket of water from a neighbor's well. The pail of water was carried to the school hanging on a broom handle, each boy holding one end of the broom stick.

There was no public transportation for pupils. In inclement weather the parents of children living a long distance from school would take them to school in a horse-drawn buggy. The distance the pupils lived from school varied from less than a quarter of a mile to more than two miles. During severe weather, pupils sometimes arrived at school with a frost-bitten finger, nose or ear. A consoling teacher and sympathetic classmates surrounded the victim and helped get blood circulating again.

Wet mittens were dried near or on a pot-bellied stove. The children knew they were dry when the odor of scorched wool filled the room.

Pupils carried their lunch to school. The most popular container was a half-gallon tobacco pail, distinguishable only by the shine or rust on the pail.

The teacher did her own janitor work except for carrying in the coal. On Friday night, the fire in the stove was not banked. By Monday morning the temperature in the schoolhouse felt similar to the outdoor temperature except that it was less windy. During the winter season the teacher might employ one of the older boys to build the fire on Monday morn-

ing. For this, he was paid a dime.

In 1920, the school was closed from January 22 to February 16 because of the epidemic of influenza.

The teacher's salaries increased to \$100 a month in the 1920's only to be reduced to \$40 a month in the depression years of the 1930's.

About 1940, the coal stove was replaced with an oil burner, the old reed organ gave way to a piano, the REA (Rural Electric Administration) made electricity available to the school, and the muddy road in front was graveled. Modern plumbing never came to the school.

In 1958 when the district became a part of the new Pella Community School District, the school and its contents were sold at auction. Tony De Jong, who owned the farm from which the land was originally taken, bought the land and the building. The building still stands and is used for storage.

Here is a list of teachers at the school from 1912 and the years when they were first hired:

Marguerite Drinkle, 1912; Mae Reynolds, 1913; June Thomas, 1914; Anna McFadden, 1915; Mirnie Porter and Edith Tandy, 1916; Hazel Shoemaker, 1917; Laurence Farr and Parl Kentfield Patrick, 1918; Agnes De Kock Van Zuuk, 1919; Ruth McVey Gillespie, 1920; Elizabeth Griest, 1921; Edith Else, 1923; Helen Earle, 1924; Christine Bruins, 1926; Gertrude Hasselman Wolbrink, 1928; Bernice De Reus Myskens, 1931; Nellie Van Heukelom Kolenbrander, 1932; Ethel Van Zante Gosselink, 1935;

Bernice Van Ommen Van Roekel, 1936; Elizabeth Huyser Memmelaar, 1939; Ruth Willfong, 1942; Birdie Beintema Faidley, 1943; Thelma De Goey Boertje, 1945; Betty Van Heukelom Goodyk, 1948; Marcie Valster Vander Leest, 1949;

Buzzard's Roost

Official name was Pleasant Grove, which see.

Centennial

Location: In Black Oak Township of Mahaska County, three miles north of Leighton or about eight miles southeast of Pella.

By Roy Vander Linden

Centennial School apparently got its name in 1876 when a new school was built there on one acre of land taken from a farm owned by Antonie De Jong.

In 1913 or 1914, a new school was erected. The old record book of the school board's transactions shows that June Thomas was the teacher at a salary of \$50 a month. Her annual report shows an enrollment of 19 boys and six girls. School days began at 9 o'clock with Bible reading, prayer, flag salute and music. Then came arithmetic, recess, reading, history, writing, the noon recess, geography, grammar, another recess, physiology,

Mrs. Dick Schultz, 1950; Marcia Van Maanen De Prenger, 1951; Betty Rempe Van Maanen, Iva June Anderson and Mrs. Clarence Vander Linden, 1952; Mrs. Patterson, Mrs. Hull and Mrs. Maxted, 1953; Pearl Morgan, 1954; Mary Roush, 1955.

Cherry Grove

Location: Ten miles northeast of Pella in Mahaska County; approximately three miles east of the Warren Bridge across the Skunk River.

Sources: Gilbert P. Vander Wal and Mr. and Mrs. Ferdinand Vogelaar. ELH

Cherry Grove School got its name from the small orchard which a pioneer planted on what later became the schoolyard. Every Friday morning for many years, the children spent a large portion of the time singing hymns, accompanied by the teacher at an old pump organ. Later, a piano was acquired for use of the school.

The little school closed before district reorganization because so many of the children who lived in the area attended Peoria Christian School. Children who did not go to the Christian school were sent to the nearby Hickory Grove School. The schoolyard reverted to the farm of Cornie Van Wyngarden, now occupied by his son, Warren; the old schoolhouse became a farm machine shed.

Among the teachers who served the school were Vera Sadler, Barbara Vander Wilt, Gladys Rexroth, Ruth De Heer and Gladys Van Rheenen.

At the time of school reorganization, most of the district became a part of the New Sharon School District, and only a small part of it is in the present Pella district.

Else School

Location: In Mahaska County, go 10 miles east of Pella on Highway 163 to site of original Pleasant Ridge School, then northeast two or three miles; Madison township, section 30.

Source: Leland R. Vander Linden, one of the last school board members. ELH

The Else School gained its name because several families named Else lived in the neighborhood when the school was started on a plot of ground given to the school district by John Rempe.

The original building was replaced in 1921 by a one-room frame building that had two small cloakrooms at the entrance, one for boys and one for girls.

For a while, there was a well, but the water in it became contaminated, and each morning children were sent to a neighboring farm to get a supply of water. The teacher took care of firing the coal furnace which heated the building. At lunch time, children got out their lunch pails and ate in the school or on the playground, depending on the weather.

The playground had a teeter-totter, a flagpole and space to play the games which the teacher and the pupils made up.

Potluck dinners, school programs and picnics were a part of the life at the school building. If the teacher or any of the pupils could play the piano, the children marched into the school and to their desks.

Usually, children representing all eight grades were in the school until the fall of 1953 when the board of directors decided to close the school. The eighth graders were bused to Pella, and the other pupils attended the Pleasant Ridge School with the taxpayers in the rural district paying tuition to Pella and Pleasant Ridge.

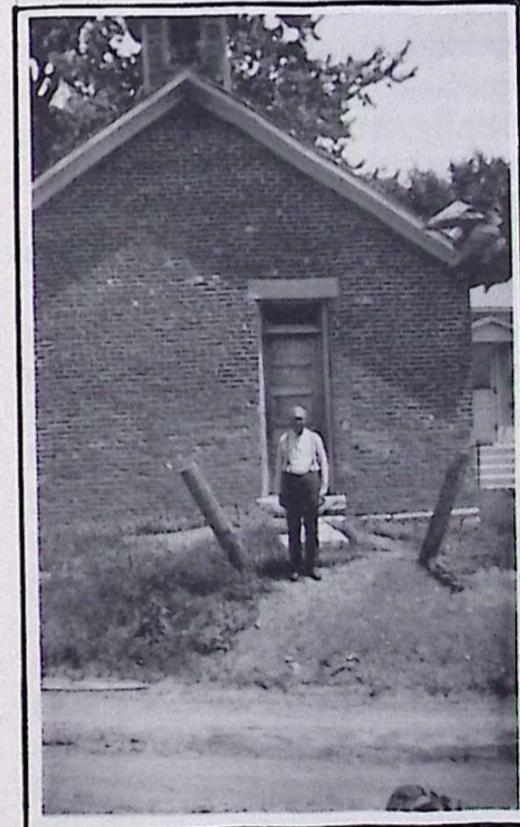
The little schoolhouse and its contents were sold at auction with Dean Anderson buying the building. He dismantled it and used the lumber in various building projects.

The last three teachers in the school were Mrs. Clifford Russel, Mrs. Katherine Hopwood and Mrs. Blanche Hale.

Eureka School

Location: In Clay Township approximately 10 miles south of Pella, or two miles northwest of Harvey, in Marion County. At the time of school reorganization, part of the Eureka District was put into the Knoxville Community School District and part of it in the Pella Community School District.

Sources: Harvey Centennial Book; Maxine Bennet, a former pupil of the school and later a secretary for the school district; and Helen Harrington Adair, teacher in the school from 1918 to 1920. ELH.



LITTLE RED SCHOOL HOUSE at Eureka was about to be torn down when John Henry Larew Sr. posed for this picture in 1932. Four generations of the family attended the school at right.



EUREKA SCHOOL DISTRICT used a popular schoolhouse plan when it built this school in 1929.

A little red school house made of bricks was built for the children of the Eureka District shortly after the end of the Civil War. It served the community as a school, a church and a neighborhood meeting place until 1929 when a new frame school was built.

"I taught all grades in the Eureka School," Mrs. Adair recalled. "The attendance was usually large, since the district included the village of Durham."

"When my parents went to school in the early 1890's," wrote Mrs. Bennett, "it was customary for the older boys to stay home part of the school year to help put the crops in and then harvest them, so many boys were in their late teens when they finished school and were as tall as the teacher."

It was customary for the teacher to begin each school day with reading from the Bible and prayer. Sometimes the children would sing while the teacher played the organ.

In February, 1957, the building was badly damaged by fire caused by an over-heated stove. The teacher, Mrs. Lucille Morgan of Harvey, discovered

the fire when she arrived at school in the morning and called the Knoxville fire department which soon controlled the fire. Repair and cleanup were done in a few days, and children were soon back in their classes.

When school reorganization closed the school in 1958, the building became a community building with monthly potluck dinners held there. In 1961, it

was sold to Ike Breese who had it moved to Knoxville and remodeled it into a home. The flag pole is in the Eureka cemetery.

European Number One

Popular name was Bell School, which see.

European Number Two

Location: On Ed Keuning farm on Pella-Galesburg road (T-14). School originally was approximately $\frac{1}{8}$ mile west of the present Herman Swank farm on the Skunk River bluff, approximately seven miles north of Pella.

Source: Interview with Arie Klyn in 1976 when he was 93 years old and old record books.

by Harold and Marie Veenstra

Lines by John Greenleaf Whittier, "Still sits the schoolhouse by the road, A rag-



NO DATE is on this picture of children at the Eureka School, but it probably was taken about 1880. In the early years of the twentieth century, the enrollment was usually at least 30 children. By the time the school closed, it usually had one or two children in each of the eight grades.

ged beggar sunning," describe the old schoolhouse that used to be called European No. 2 and now is a farm storage building.

When Arie Klyn was a small boy starting to school, the schoolhouse was located near a covered bridge in an area which was called Stumptown. His first teacher was Mollie Billings, later Mollie De Reus. That school was closed in 1890 because there were not enough pupils in the area to keep it open, he said. In 1891, the old school was sold to the highest bidder, M. Veenstra, for \$70.

On November 10, 1890, the board of directors accepted the bid of M. Veenstra to build a new schoolhouse at a new location for \$256. The new school was built in what is now Herman Swank's garden, and was named European No. 2. In 1922, the school was moved about one mile south to its present location. Since the school district

did not have a deed to the building or the land on which it stood, it was considered a part of the farm and did not become the property of the Pella Community School District.

In 1945, the school was closed, and the few pupils were transported to one of the other schools in the district, No. 1 (called Bell School) or No. 3 (called Mathes School).

Teachers in European No. 2 during its last three decades of operation and their monthly salary when they began teaching were: 1923, Marie Beyer, \$65; 1924, Cornelia Gosselink, \$65; 1926, Elizabeth Hesselink, \$75; 1927, Dorothy Van Duren, \$75; 1929, Minnie Van Roekel, \$75; 1930, Mabel De Jong, \$75; 1931, Alma Ver Ploeg, \$85; 1933, Margaret Klyn, \$50; 1935, Sarah Klyn, \$50; 1939, Agnes Vander Hart, \$60; 1940, James Brass, \$70; 1941, Johanna Rowenhorst, \$85.

European Number Three

Location: Three and one-half miles north of Pella on the Pella-Sully road.

*Source: An account written by Valentine Mathes in 1977.
ELH*

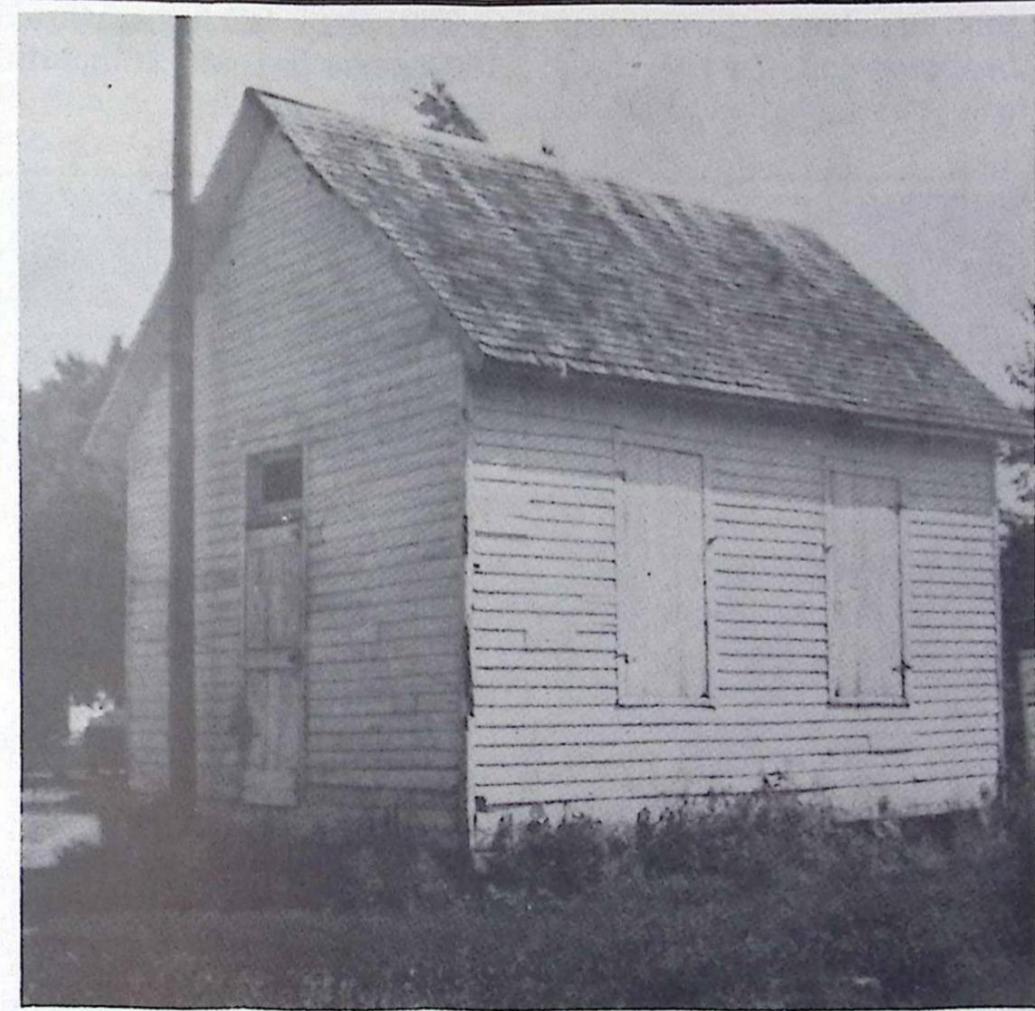
European School District was larger than most districts in the area and at one time had three schools, European No. 1 (Bell School), European No. 2 (Stump Town), and European No. 3 (Mathes School). Later, Nos. 1 and 2 were closed, and the children's parents drove them to the Mathes School.

Apparently the district received its name to emphasize that not all of the children in the area were of Dutch descent but that they had a varied ancestry.

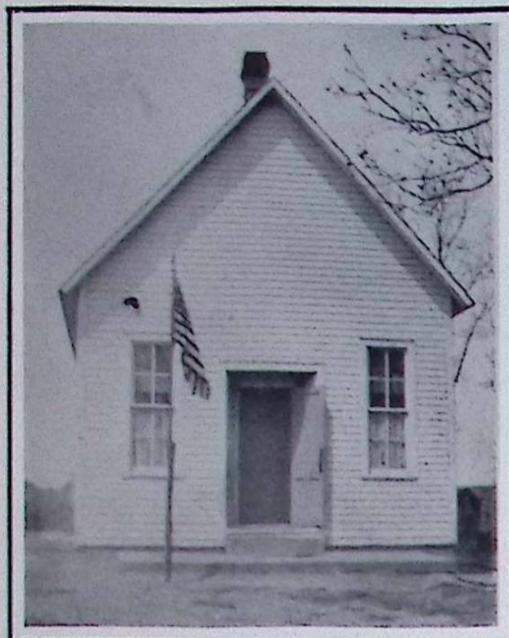
First official record referring to the school is a deed, dated February 12, 1878, by which Valentine Mathes and his wife, Aagje, transferred one-fourth acre of land to European School District, Lake Prairie Township, for a school for the price of \$10.

The first building was 16 by 20 feet with part of the north wall painted black to be used as a chalk board. Later, smoother boards were nailed over this area. When the building was auctioned in 1925, the highest bidder (John N. Mathes, for \$77.50) had the building hauled to his farm to be used as a granary. He removed the top layer of boards and found the last thing drawn on the original board, a cat sketched by the teacher, Miss Ver Heul in 1910, had never been erased. "It is still to be seen to this day," Mathes reported in 1977.

The second building was erected in 1925 at a cost of \$4,509. When the school closed in 1958, the building was auctioned to Gary Vogelaar who



EUROPEAN SCHOOL NO. 3 had two buildings during its 80 years of existence. The first was built about 1878, the second one in 1925.



FAIR OAKS SCHOOL looked like this in 1928. The building was torn down in 1968.

moved it to a location south of Pella and remodeled it for a home.

Teachers at European School No. Three and date hired:

Bessie Brooks, 1900 (?) ; Minerva Pugh, 1902; Lizzie Snyder, 1904; Martha Brimmer, 1908; Agnes Ballenger, Elizabeth Ver Heul, 1909; Ina Grundman Renaud, 1911; Antonette Neels Klein, 1912; Etta Vander Hart Ter Louw, 1915; Helen Brooks, 1916; Pearl Stienkamp Sedrel, 1919; Dora Roorda Groenendyk, 1920; Janet Den Hartog Vander Leest, 1921; Georgia Roorda Tysseling, 1923; Irene Vander Linden Kuiper, 1924; Mae Meppelink Van Houweling, Margaret Le Cocq and Janet Grootveld Steenhoek, 1926; Anna Verhey and Malvina Neely, 1928;

Ruth Vander Linden, 1929; Artie Hasselman Roozeboom, 1932; Gretchen Fennema Langerak, 1935; Henrietta Van Roekel Van Zante, 1937; Johanna Van Roekel Mathes, 1942; Dorothy Witzenburg Monsma, 1944; Ruth Vander Linden, 1947; Lois Jean Eysink Van Zante, 1948; Pupils transported to Pella Independent School District and to Sandridge School, 1951 to 1953; Louise

Van Zee Healy, 1953; Gladys Leusink Nieuwsma and Janet Grootveld Steenhoek, 1954; Darlene Vinson Bevan, 1955.

Fair Oaks

Location: In Summit Township in Marion County, 10 miles west of Pella on G-28, then $\frac{3}{4}$ mile north on gravel road; farm from which land was taken for the school was owned by Reinhardt Van Dyke. The land is now owned by Delos Van Den Berg.

Source: Lorena Bricker Van Hemert who attended Fair Oaks School in the 1920's. ELH

The lovely oak trees in the area were the source of the name for the Fair Oaks School District which elected a school board in 1887 but did not hire a teacher until 1894. Until 1915, teachers were hired for three-month periods with the school sometimes having three different teachers during one school year. In 1920, only three

school-aged children lived in the district, so they were sent to the neighboring Liberty Corner School as tuition students, and the Fair Oaks School was closed for a year.

Spelling bees, ciphering matches, lessons on the recitation bench and recess on the oak-shaded school yard were regular events.

On special occasions, the teacher and students hung old stage curtains at the front of the room and invited the community to the school for a program. On the last day of school, they always had a picnic.

The school was opened each day by the ringing of a handbell which was bought by Grace Cronkite Karr, a former teacher of the school when the school and its contents were auctioned about 1960. Mrs. Karr was well-known in the Pella area as the writer of Cordova News in the *Pella Chronicle*.

Members of the first school board were John Carpenter, A. C. Karr and R. R. Emmerson.

The first teacher, Minnie Dickey, earned \$30 a month.



THE GIRLS AT FAIR OAKS and their teacher, Florence Ellison, stood in the doorway of the school.

Later salaries ranged from \$22 a month in 1895 to the \$3087 annual salary of the last teacher of the school in the 1956-1957 school year.

The teachers and the year they began teaching were:

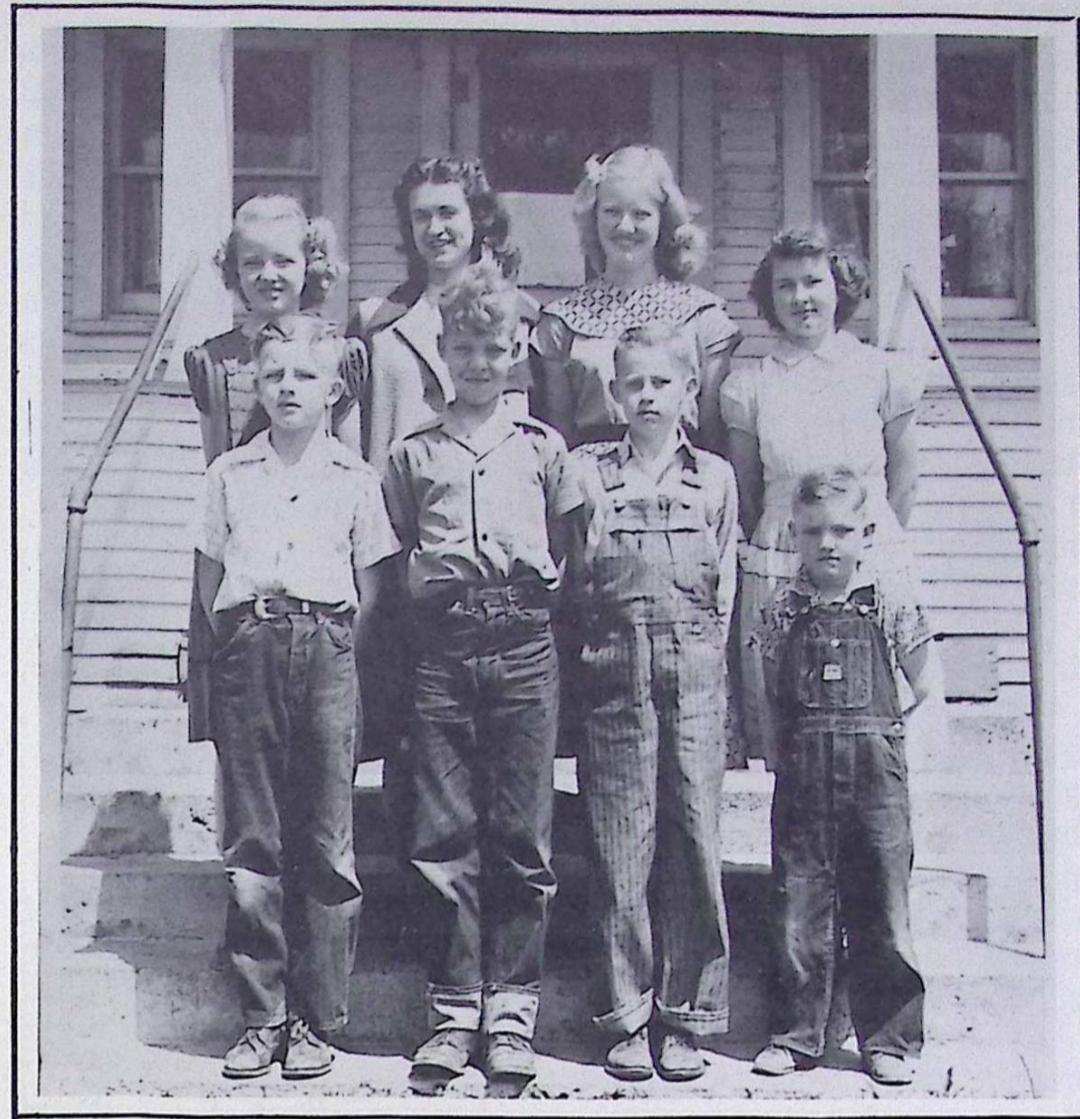
Minnie Dickey, 1894; Florence Hammer, 1895; Marie Van Corp and Maud Stuart, 1897; Bertha Rietveld, 1898; Florence Hammer and Nellie Childers, 1900; Loveda Van Doren and Minnie Dickey, 1901; Persie Sarver, 1902; Earl Dewey and Kate Rietveld, 1903; Mella Rankin and J. B. Weede, 1904; Pauline Sarver, and Bertha Sarver, 1905;

J. Roscoe McGraw, 1906; Mabel Bush and Fay Tyrrell, 1907, Mary Jones, 1908; Jesse Templeton and Ida Freeman, 1909; Jennie Lemmon, 1910; Marjorie Cooper, 1911; Nannie Hyatt, 1912; Florence Ellison, 1914; Fanny Eide, 1916; Ethel Curtis, 1918; Grace Cronkite Karr, 1919; Marie Muilenberg, 1922; Gertrude Hoksbergen, 1923; Doris Lee, 1927; Blanche Karr, 1929; Geraldine Gosse-link, 1933; Anna Slocum, 1935; Florence Ruckman, 1937; Bernice De Graff, 1938; Hazel Wor-rall, 1940;

Opal Caulkins De Heer, 1942; Mary Meyers, 1943; Marjorie Blom, 1944; Dorothy Ver Dught, 1945; Freda Ballard Clark, 1946; Anna McBeth, 1947; Wanda Clark Dietrick, 1950; Ellen Karr, 1952; Ina Umble, 1953; Hazel Reeves, 1955.

Fleming

Location: Approximately 10 miles northeast of Pella; legal description of first site is "Northeast corner of the SW quarter of the NW section 10, Township 77, Range 17 West." The later buildings were a quarter of a mile north. This was Subdistrict No. 2, Richland



ALL OF THE PUPILS were on the front steps of Fleming School with their teacher, Norma Schmidt Conover (second from left in back row) when this picture was taken in the late 1940s.

Township, Mahaska County, two and a half miles north of old Peoria.

by Chanley Fleming

In 1846 when the first settlers in the area northeast of Pella decided that their children needed a school, R. L. Fleming cleaned up an abandoned log cabin and announced that he was opening a private school. Everyone called it the Fleming School — a name which was attached to the three school buildings used by later teachers until the area became a part of the new Pella Community School District in 1958.

The first building erected as a school house was a frame structure on the farm owned by Loren Osborn who settled in the township in 1846. The second school was built in 1888 a quarter of a mile north of the first one on land owned by

William Shaw. It was replaced by a third building in 1920.

The first building was later used as a granary on the Osborn farm; the second is part of a farm house on what is now known as the Beyer farm, and the third was torn down and used in other buildings.

At first, the school was ungraded with teachers helping the children at whatever level they were in basic reading, writing and arithmetic. In the 1904-1905 school term, there were 48 pupils ranging in age from five to 21.

All of the children walked to and from school except in very bad weather when their parents or older members of the family would transport them in sleds, wagons, carriages or buggies, according to the season.

The water supply came from a well with a hand pump in the school yard. The heating plant in the first schoolhouse was a

wood-burning stove. The second school had a big coal stove, and the last one had a coal-burning furnace. It was part of the teacher's duties to keep the stoves and furnace going, or have the oldest boy in school do it.

Children who lived near the school often went home for dinner — it was never called lunch. The others carried their noon-day food in gallon molasses buckets or Old King tobacco buckets.

The playground was one acre in size with some shade trees.

The pupils studied reading, geography, arithmetic, civics, grammar, history, physiology, hygiene, music, spelling and penmanship from textbooks. In the early years, there were no more than a dozen books on the shelf called "The Library."

In the early years of the 20th century there were no special holiday celebrations, but sometimes there were community gatherings in the school where the entertainment was singing, spelling bees and talks. These were called "Literaries."

Pupils of later years had programs to which the parents were invited.

An incomplete list of the

teachers includes these names: R.L. Fleming, Dee Billings, Allie Sheesley, Mable Evans, J. B. Wehrle, Gertrude Sullivan, Weaver Bryant, John Mills, Cecil Way, Mary Whalen, Edwin Spain, Margaret Kisor, Jeanette Mol, Katherine Fleming, Frances Coffman, Grace Christiansen, Norma Schmidt, Miss Carey, Miss Redpath, Eloise Becklew, Norma Eysink and Mrs. Howell.

through eight. The school was located in the Borgman neighborhood. Other neighbors were Boenders, Bandstras, Blommers, Bogaards and Vande Noords.

Among the teachers who taught there at one time or another were Anna Wormhoudt, Henrietta Gaass, Clara Gosselink, Anna Mae Vande Noord Gosselink, Jeanette Brown Vander Werf, Dorothy Van Duren, Eddie Van Arkel and Mrs. Charley Klein. Marilyn Andeweg Aldrich was the last teacher, just prior to reorganization in 1958.

Pupils walked to school or rode their ponies. Classes started at 8 a.m. and school was out at 4 p.m.

Water was carried from the neighbors, bucket on a stick between two appointed water carriers. One hour at noon was used for eating lunches that were brought in bags or lunch buckets. There was plenty of time left for games such as baseball, tag, Drop the Handkerchief. Winter was for skating, snowballing, the game Fox and Geese or coasting to the creek nearby.

The building was used for Bible classes and question school also. These were usually held after 4 p.m. with elders from Third Reformed Church as teachers.

In later years, the families got together for such things as play productions or family dinners.

The district experienced two bad fires in its history, both at night, and both total. After one fire, the board bought and moved the Sheesley School building across the Skunk River to the site of the burned school. The last building was modern in every respect with running water, electricity, cooking facilities, a full basement and playground equipment.

After reorganization, the building was sold to Tony Roose who remodeled it and made it into a nice home.

Flint Ridge

Location: North and east of Pella on the county line between Marion and Mahaska counties; in Section 31 of Richland Township.

Source: "Buck Saw", Pella Chronicle, November 17, 1976.

By C. C. Buerkens

Flint Ridge Rural School Number Nine was a typical rural school with the usual number of grades from one



FLINT RIDGE SCHOOL pupils and their teacher, Dorothy Van Duvan, about 1925.

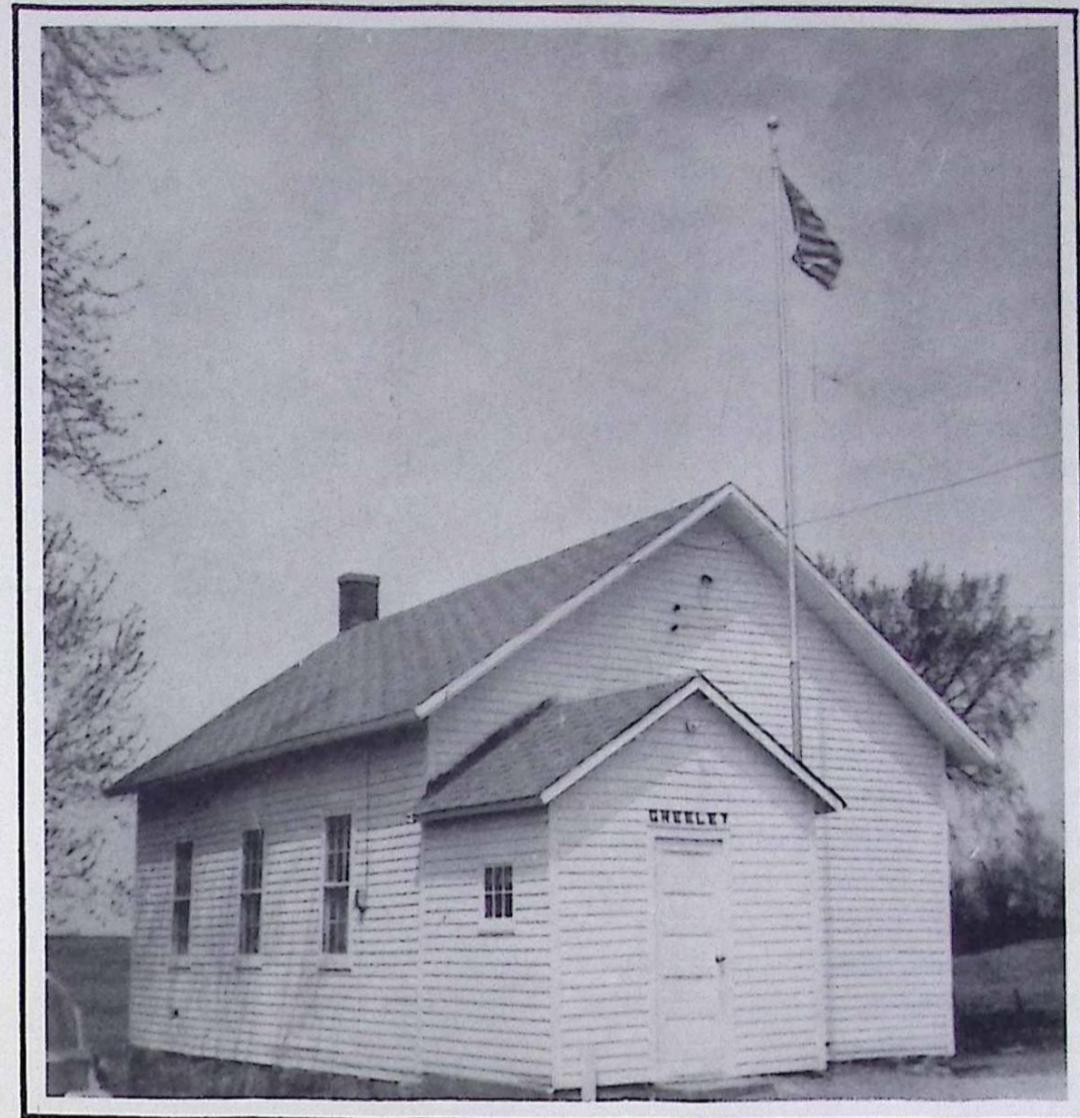
Granville

Location: One-half mile south of Taintor in Richland Township in Mahaska County. Most of the district became a part of the New Sharon School District.

Source: Mrs. Peter Westerkamp.

The last teacher of the Granville School was Bertha Watts who was the teacher at the time the area was reorganized.

At least four generations of Wehrles attended the school: Warner, Paul, Raymond and Marvin.



Greeley School

Location: Section 15 of Scott Township Section 75 in Mahaska County; 14 miles southeast of Pella or two and one-half miles southwest of Leighton.

By Edna Barnes of Oskaloosa

When it was time to build a school in Scott Township in Mahaska County, the land was sold to the school district for \$40 an acre by Sam Hays, January 14, 1878, more than one hundred years ago.

Directors were elected by the people in the district who also selected the name of a prominent American for their new school, Horace Greeley, a writer and prominent New York City newspaper publisher. He was a leader in the anti-slavery movement and popularized the slogan, "Go West, young man, go West."

Early directors of the school were Sam Hays, Dave Davis, John Moody, J. W. Binns, R. H. Barnes, Paul Simons Sr., Gilbert Van Maanen, Shirley Binns, Andrew Barnes, Fred Van Maanen, Bennie Binns, Lloyd



LAST CLASS at Greeley School lined up on the merry-go-round in the spring of 1958.

Mathes, Leonard Simons and Howard Barnes. Several women assumed the offices of secretary and treasurer. Ida Moody was secretary for many years. Edna Barnes, Mildred Denburger and Mable Binns were others who held these offices for several terms.

Among the teachers were Fannie McKenna, Stowell Stringfellow, Lizzie Evans, Lester Butler, May Dulin, Frank Hale, Ray McBurney, Rozella Douglas, Lucille De Bruin, Velma Rempe, Lillian Cruzen, Irene Hasselman, Camille Barnett, Josephine De Jong, Beatrice Rafferty, Mrs. Russell Schuler, Lela Binford, Edith Brummel, Bernice Wilfong, Jennie Van Ooyen, Bertha Van Zante and Florence Johnson.

Families which sent children to the school for three generations included the Redmans, Barnes, Binns, Moodys, Van Maanens and Hiemstras.

At first, the school was heated by a pot-bellied coal stove which later was replaced by an oil burner. A well on the school grounds furnished water. Playground equipment in later years consisted of a slide, teeter-totter, basketball hoop and merry-go-round. The children carried their lunches to school and usually walked to school. In early years, some rode ponies; later, there were bicycles.

Special days with a program for the parents added to the interest of the school. It was exciting when the curtains made of bed sheets opened for songs, declamations, dialogues and pantomimes, especially at Christmas when Santa would appear for the gift exchange. Teacher's treats were eagerly awaited.

The last day of school was marked by a big picnic dinner with ice cream furnished by the school board.

Each Friday afternoon after the last recess, there was something interesting planned

by the teacher such as ciphering matches, spell-downs, art, or perhaps an interesting story read by the teacher.

One enterprising teacher at Greeley planned an old-fashioned husking bee for a Halloween party. Many attended, and such scurrying to find the red ears of corn which permitted a young man to claim his reward of a kiss from his best girl. This was followed by a box supper which was a popular way to raise money for something special like an organ, globe or library books. One time, there was enough money left over for window curtains.

Discipline was not much of a problem but occasionally graffiti on the outhouse walls commanded an immediate coat of paint.

Township meetings were popular in the 1920's and 30's with each school entering contestants in spelling and declamatory contests. A big picnic dinner at noon made the day enjoyable for all the school children in the Township. Township winners would later compete for county honors.

After the school district reorganization, the schoolhouse and contents were auctioned along with the playground equipment in 1959. People in the district vied for the bell, flagpole, teacher's desk and chair, library books, a set of encyclopedias and the desks, many of which had initials of past pupils carved on them.

The land reverted to the farm owned by Lloyd Mathes who purchased the farm formerly owned by Sam W. Hays. He purchased the schoolhouse which is now used for grain storage.

For some people, the last school days in the little schoolhouse were the end of their formal education; for many others, the training obtained at Greeley School was the foundation for college and advanced degrees.

Hard Scrabble

Official name was Pleasant View, which see.

Hickory Grove

Location: Approximately three and a half miles southeast of the east end of the Warren bridge across the Skunk River.

Source: Mrs. Ferdinand Vogelaar. ELH

Hickory Grove School got its name from the large hickory trees which grew in the area around the first little schoolhouse. The first building was moved to the neighboring farm of Ferdinand Vogelaar and is still used as a shed.

The second Hickory Grove schoolhouse was remodeled and enlarged and is now used as Lower Grove Church. Most of the school district became a part of the New Sharon Community School District, but a small part of it is in the Pella District.

Iola School

Location: About six and a half miles south and west of Pella on the old Knoxville road near the turnoff to Harvey.

Source: "Buck Saw," Pella Chronicle, May 24, 1978.

by C. C. Buerkens

The site of the original Iola Rural School was taken from the Durham farm according to William Schakel who lived nearby and was a board member from 1942 to 1948.

The white frame building is not there anymore. It has been moved to Harvey where it was remodeled to serve as a residence. Actually, the 30-foot

square building was the second one built on this site. The first one burned about 1928.

The site is still vacant. Weeds and shrubs now fill the yard in the turn of the road where the building once stood and where the laughter of children once filled the air. For those who remember the busy days of the school, the yard is desolate.

Here, children walked to school for the most part. Drinking water was carried from a neighboring farm, and in the winter the pupils kept warm from the heat of the standard pot-bellied stove.

Leighton

Location: The school has been located at several different places in the district and now is on the east edge of Leighton in Black Oak Township in Mahaska County.

Written by Mrs. Con De Prenger in May, 1962

Open house is being held this week at Leighton in the new modern brick structure on the former Henry Rempe farm. This building with its up-to-date heating and lighting equipment, its modern seats, four classrooms, new kitchen, tile floor and indoor rest rooms is a far cry from the first school ever located in Black Oak Township.

The date of the first Black Oak Township School is not known, but it was located just one half mile north of Leighton on the Whitacre farm, later purchased by B. Groenendyke and later farmed by Gerrit B. Steenhoek, his grandson.

The first teacher was Mary Nossaman. Her home was in Pella, but she boarded with the J.M. Jackson family. Her wages were \$10 a month.

The next Leighton School was located half a mile east of

Leighton. Some patrons disliked this location, claiming it wasn't centrally located for all children attending, so it was moved to the "hollow" on the Beagle farm just east of Muchicanic Creek on the north side. This location was unsatisfactory, for many times the creek overflowed, making a virtual pond in the school yard so teachers and pupils alike often wore "gum boots."

Water had to be carried in an enamel bucket from Leighton. Basins were used to wash hands before meals. Pot-bellied stoves heated the two rooms and the teachers did all their own janitor work.

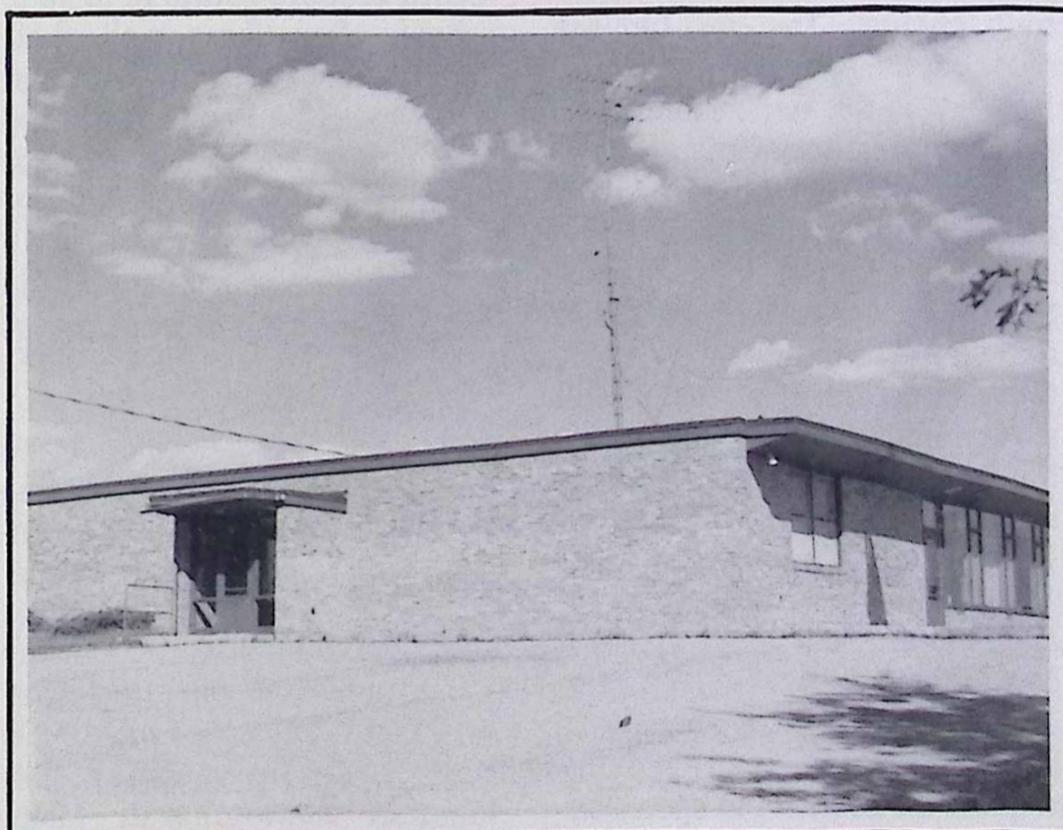
When Leighton incorporated in 1910, plans were made to build a new "modern" school in Leighton. Land was purchased from the Gerrit Stowie property, and the first school was built in Leighton.

The first teacher was Miss Ditch. There were two rooms, a belfry and a big resounding bell, a basement with a coal furnace and floor registers. The rest rooms were outdoors in little square houses as they were at all school houses in those days.

This school was the pride of Leighton and has had many successful boys and girls graduate from it.

When school reorganization developed, Leighton became a part of the Pella Community System. The board for the new school district voted to have four rooms instead of two with two grades for each room so the Christian Grade School was leased for the lower grades.

Since Pella Community School District was formed in 1958, the pupils of Leighton have been in three different buildings. First, they were in the old Leighton School located in the northwest part of Leighton, where the Leighton Leisure Home for senior citizens now stands. For a few years, the Pella District rented a school in Leighton owned by Christian Reformed Church, which the kindergarteners, first and second graders used. Teachers and pupils moved into the present school in Leighton when it was completed in March, 1962. It has three classrooms, a small kitchen and a multi-purpose room which is also used as a community center.



A NEW SCHOOL FOR LEIGHTON was included in the bond issue the new Pella district approved in 1959. Money for a new Pella High School and an addition to Lincoln School was approved by the voters at the same time.

Liberty Corner

Location: East of Otley at an intersection where one road leads south to the perimeter road on the north edge of Lake Red Rock and the other road deadends on the east shore of Rock Creek Lake; legal description of the site is Summit Township, 79 N, Range 19 W, SW 40 of NW quarter, Section 26.

Sources: Ruth Vander Linden, last teacher of the school, and books in the possession of Harold Van Zee, secretary of the school board at the time the district became a part of the new Pella District. ELH

After Summit Township was separated from Red Rock Township in March, 1854, a school was built at a crossroads which frequently was called "The Corner." The building and land are now owned by Robert Kaldenberg.

Three big matters of business for the board of directors each year were hiring a teacher, accepting bids for supplying coal, and accepting the low bid for cleaning the school each fall. Coal cost a few cents a bushel. For the first third of the twentieth century, the low bid for cleaning the school was usually from \$2 to \$5, depending upon just how much had to be done. The board minutes always listed what was to be done that year; for example, scrub and oil the floors, wash windows and desks, wash and iron the curtains, clean the stove pipes and scrape the peeling calcimine off the walls, then replace it with a fresh coat.

Scattered through the regular business of the board meetings are resolutions which give insight into life in the little school and in the area. In March, 1920, the board voted to require all children to speak only the English language during school hours. In 1933 and 1934, there are statements in the minutes reflecting the problems



PUPILS AT LIBERTY CORNER SCHOOL in 1928. Teacher was Dena Ver Steeg.

that the school had when the bank where the district kept its money did not open after the bank holiday. In April, 1934, the board applied to the State Sinking Fund to recover funds which it had deposited in a bank.

In July, 1926, the board voted to levy a fee of five cents for each student to be used in buying library books. In 1936, they voted to erect new outbuildings. In 1934, they voted to let the eighth graders continue to go to school after they took their county examinations so that they would be better prepared for high school. The teacher received extra pay for this service.

Teachers since 1919 and the year they began teaching at Liberty Corner: Henriette Gaass, 1919; Mabel Morris, 1925; Margaret Wynia, 1926; Dena Ver Steeg, 1927; Marie Vander Hart, 1928; Lois Grandia, 1929; Agnes Van Zante, 1931; Clara Gosselink, 1933; Gretchen Dunnick, 1939; Irene Van Haaften, 1941; Margery Van Heukelom, 1942; Edna De Jong, 1943; Betty Kool, 1944; Johanna Rouwenhorst, 1945; Mrs. Cornie Tromp, 1947; Rene Marie Klein, 1948; Ellen M. Karr, 1951; and Ruth Vander Linden, 1952.

The last year the school operated, it had seven Schreiner brothers; the oldest boy was in eighth grade, the youngest in primary.

Ruth Vander Linden recalls that the big boys carried the chairs and desks down to the basement of the school each year for the Christmas program and before the furniture was put back in place, she scrubbed and waxed the floors. The children sat on rags and scooted around on the floor to polish it. "It was lots of work, but it made it easier for me to sweep," she said.

Daily Instruction Liberty Corner

At the beginning of each term, rural teachers were required to send the county superintendent a copy of their Program for Daily Instruction. The teachers were expected to stick to the schedule, a different one for each day of the week that would include all of the required subjects for each grade represented in the school. The children went to the front of the room on schedule, so that the teacher could hear their lessons

and give them the next assignment. In the early days, the children used a recitation bench; in later years, most schools had a recitation table. Teachers made a special effort to be right on schedule if they expected a visit from the superintendent.

A sample of a rural school schedule is this one from Liberty Corner, for Mondays during the 1934-35 school year. That year, the school had no one in seventh grade or primary (kindergarten). The numbers after each subject refer to the grade levels.

9 a.m. - Opening exercise and singing.

9:15 - Reading, 1
9:30 - Reading, 2
9:45 - Supervised study
10 - Hygiene, 5 and 6
10:30 - Recess
10:45 - Numbers, 1
11 - Arithmetic, 2
11:15 - Arithmetic, 3
11:25 - Spelling, 4
11:35 - Arithmetic, 5
11:45 - History, 6
12 - Supervised lunch
12:15 - Supervised play
1 - Opening exercise
1:15 - Reading, 1
1:30 - Reading, 2
1:40 - Spelling, 3
1:50 - Arithmetic, 4
2:05 - Spelling, 5 and 6
2:15 - Language, 8
2:30 - Recess
2:45 - General Lessons, 1,2,3
3 - Language, 3 and 4
3:15 - Arithmetic, 6
3:30 - History, 8
3:45 - History, 5

Madison

Official name was Pleasant View, which see.

Mathes

Official name was European Number Three, which see.

Meade

Official name was Black Oak Number Seven, which see.

Otley

Location: One block west of Highway 163 in the northwest part of Otley, nine miles west of Pella.

Sources: History of Marion County printed by Des Moines Union Historical Company in 1881; articles written by Mrs. Henry Vriezelaar of Otley for the Pella Chronicle September 18, 1930; April 5, 1956; February 18, 1960; May 9, 1961; and May 9, 1968; clippings and records collected by Stanley Vanden Berg of Otley, and her own memories as a former teacher of the school.

by Doris Lee

The town of Otley was platted in 1867 on land donated by Mrs. Margaret Baldwin and her son, John F. Baldwin. They

owned a large amount of land in this area and had built a fine home about half a mile north of the town site. The town was named in honor of Colonel Otley, an engineer of the Des Moines Valley Railroad Company who was instrumental in having this particular site chosen as a shipping point for the railroad.

No records are available as to the exact date of the organization of the Otley School, but it seems to have been 1868 or 1869. The first building was a one-room frame structure, but the school grew so rapidly that it became necessary to enlarge the building. One source indicates that this was done in 1870; however, there are records showing that bonds at 10 percent were issued to the amount of \$500, and a contract was let for the building of an addition in the summer of 1876. This building was ready for use in November of that same year and provided two large rooms with "trim" seats. The 1876 building served until 1927 when a new two-room frame building



CHILDREN RANG THE BELL while the teacher raised the flag to start the day at Otley School in 1947.



HANDS ON DESKS in the teacher-approved position were the children of the lower grades in Otley School in 1947. Doris Lee is the teacher.

with a full basement was erected.

The basement of this building was useful for all sorts of community activities. School programs and community plays were presented there; the local Farmers' Co-op used it for annual meetings for many years, and on stormy days it was a substitute playground for the school children.

With the coming of school district reorganization, the coal room was converted into a kitchen, and the basement became a lunchroom for the hot lunch program. The basement is still used for a number of community meetings.

Between the two outside entrances to this building there was a flat-topped concrete pyramid which supported the school bell. Any school child allowed to ring the bell by pulling on the stout bell rope to summon his classmates considered himself highly honored. The bell was also rung loud and long when the community needed to be alerted for a fire or other emergency. The bell was removed when the school was enlarged in 1956. I have no knowledge about the present

whereabouts of the bell.

In 1956, an addition of two spacious rooms was built. Considerable remodeling of the older building was done, and a part of the basement was finished for a fifth classroom. Because of school district reorganization and the closing of many nearby rural schools, the enrollment grew to 140 students and the staff expanded to five teachers. In 1958, the Otley Independent School District became part of the Pella Community School District. Since then it has been designated as an attendance center, and the enrollment and number of teachers has varied from year to year.

Until 1956, the Otley School was a two-room school with two teachers. There must have been times when those classrooms were extremely crowded. In 1876, there were 146 pupils ranging in age from five to 21 years of age. Records show that there were 125 in 1887. An article in the Pella **Blade** dated April 12, 1887 states: "The school is a graded one and has an enrollment of about 125 scholars. Both the teachers are ladies. The principal, Miss

Dicky, came from Knoxville, while Miss Davis, her assistant in the primary department, is from Monroe. They are both excellent teachers and have given splendid satisfaction throughout the district."

According to the minutes of a special school board meeting on December 7, 1883, monthly salaries for the following year were to be \$27.50 for Grace Orcutt in the primary department and \$40 for Mary Edwards in the grammar department. The length of the school term was five months. Kate Van Toorn, who acted as janitor, got \$4 a month. Coal cost eight cents a bushel.

As coal mining in the vicinity decreased, the school enrollment decreased also. From the 1920's up to the time of school reorganization, the total number of pupils was seldom above 65.

The upper grade room was always called "the big room," and the primary room was "the little room."

In 1979, there are 34 pupils in kindergarten through fourth grade with three teachers.

Playground activities have always been an important part of education in the Otley School. As a rule, the teachers participated in the games along with the pupils. Baseball, coasting in the winter, Beckon, Mother May I?, Red Rover, Pom Pom Pull Away, rope jumping, Andy-Over, and Flying Dutchman were some of the favorite games. Teachers and visitors often remarked about the spirit of helpfulness and camaraderie and the real enjoyment the pupils seemed to experience in all of their activities.

The community picnic on the last day of school was the big event of the year for the pupils. Long tables were set up in the shade if the weather permitted; otherwise, they were placed in the basement. Mothers came early with well-filled baskets. Everything was in readiness for



OTLEY VOTERS approved a new wing for their old school a few years before the town became a part of the Pella Community School District.

a sumptuous meal by noon when the fathers came from fields and business places to spend at least an hour eating and visiting. There was always an abundance of food, and the children returned to the tables for seconds and thirds and even more until they could hold no more. Visiting and games continued in the afternoon until reluctant farewells were said, and report cards were distributed, ending the last day of school.

Plainview

Location: Originally one mile east of Pella on the New Sharon road where Ver Meer's factory is now located; later, moved to two and one-half acre site on the farm where Harold Meinders lived in 1972.

Source: Mrs. Albert Van Don-selaar and some of the school records.

Electors of the area east of the original town of Pella met on May 2, 1874, to select

school directors and a name for the school district. J. Markel, J. Nieuwendorp, and K. Van Klootwyk were elected, and the name Plainview was chosen because the site chosen for the school was in a flat area, in plain sight.

A little more than a year later, Miss DeLittle was hired as the first teacher at \$25 a month.

Excerpts from the school board minutes give these facts about the school:

1875 - The first school was built.

1876 - Decision was made to have school nine months a year.

1883 - New school house was built at a cost of \$960.96; J. Nieuwendorp bought the old school building for \$26.

1880 - Increased enrollment made it necessary to hire two teachers, one for \$25 a month, the other for \$22.50.

1884 - The school had a man teacher who earned \$30 a month.

1901 - Teacher started using report cards for pupils.

1908 - A new well was dug and an iron pump was placed

over it.

1918 - The board voted, 9 to 3, to install a telephone in the school. It was hard to find teachers during the war, and the board voted to raise the salary to \$60 a month.

1919 - Teacher's salary was boosted to \$100 a month.

1920 - Furnace was installed.

1926 - Board decided that J.M. Gosselink could use the school grounds for pasture during the summer in exchange for the upkeep of the fence.

1929 - Lightning rods were put on the school. The coal house was moved to the edge of a pond in the Ver Meer woods across the road from the school to be used as a shelter for iceskaters.

1932 - Coal-house was moved back to the school grounds to be used as a pony stable.

1936 - Two new outhouses were built on the school grounds.

1937 - During the depression years, teacher's salary was lowered to \$60 a month.

1943 - Interior of the school was re-painted; teacher's

salary was raised to \$90 a month.

1949 - Gerald Terpstra bought the pony shed for \$20.

1952 - Attic was insulated at a cost of \$104.

1953 - Students went to visit the Iowa legislature at the invitation of State Representative Elmer Ver Meer.

1955 - Teacher's monthly salary was \$255.

1957 - The school board members discussed the idea of becoming a part of the proposed Pella Community School District.

1958 - March 10, the last meeting of the Plainview School Board was held.

Teachers at Plainview and year hired:

Miss Doolittle, 1875; Maria

Davenport, 1876; Miss A.M. Dana, 1878; Ida Dunn and Miss Wilson, 1880; J.J. Stoddart, C.S. Pruitt, E. Vingari, G.W. Kimmel and J.J. Stoddard, 1882; Sallie Martin and Sadie Lacy, 1883; Frank Vandeven, 1884; Minnie Edmand, 1885; F. Vandeven and F. Wright, 1886; Aletha Davenport, 1887; Anna De Haan, 1888; Minnie Forsythe, 1889; Nora Boswel and Kate De Haan, 1890;

Anna Dunnink, 1894; Jennie Kuyper, 1898; Dora Thomassen and Sylvia Platt Van Donselaar, 1899; Nellie Van der Sluis, 1900; Katie Boland Grandia, 1902; Avis Veenschoten Bogaard, 1903; Katie Boland Grandia, 1904; Cornelia De Cook, 1906; Tillie DeWit Blom-

mers, 1907; Bertha Dykstra Stone, 1909; Elizabeth Verheul, 1911; Edna Verheul, 1917; Meda Heki, Agnes Vander Hart and Alice Tysseling Levering, 1919; Cornelius Gosselink Van Donselaar, 1927; Janet Grootveld Steenhoek and Elva Brummel De Haan, 1936;

Esther Grootveld De Zwart, 1937; Ardella Grandia Gosselink, 1938; Beula Grandia Roorda, 1939; Emily Hiemstra, 1941; Betty Vriezelaar Faszler, 1943; Mildred Gosselink Eldred, 1944; Betty Vander Beek, 1950; Thelma Grandia, 1952; Joyce Leydens Scott, 1953; Mrs. William De Bruin, 1954; Gloria Daggey, 1955.



SCHOOL MEMORIES WERE BEING MADE when Teunis Verros, who wrote "I Remember Them Well" about his days in Plain View School, lined up with the teacher, pupils and school board members for a picture in June, 1896. Teunis is the boy in the suit standing sixth from the left.

Pleasant Grove (Mahaska County)

Location: Halfway between Pella and Oskaloosa on Highway 163 in Mahaska County; Section 6 in Black Oak Township.

Sources: Clippings from Pella Chronicle in scrapbook of Jeanette Van Waardhuizen and "Buck Saw" column by C. C. Buerkens in Pella Chronicle, January 31, 1973. ELH

The official name was Pleasant Grove but the more frequently used title for the only school between Pella and Oskaloosa was Buzzard's Roost.

The first school, sometimes called Baker School, was a frame building constructed in 1868. Sometimes in the winter months when it was too cold to do any farm work and all of the children and teen-agers of the neighborhood were in school, the teacher would have almost 100 pupils. All of the desks were crowded and students sat on benches around the edge of the room.

There was much high grass around the school, and the favorite game of the children was Deer. This consisted of chasing each other through the tall grass. Many of the children rode horses to school, some of them traveling 10 miles. Some children walked as far as four miles to attend the school.

Buerkens wrote:

One of the strong arm sports practiced by the older boys was to cut a long pole from the nearby timber. Then by means of blocking, the pole could be used as a pry or lever. Four or five husky lads would use their combined weight to lift the building off the foundation or gently teeter it up and down.

Needless to say, this earthquake effect was most distracting to teacher and



BUZZARD'S ROOST was the nickname for Pleasant Grove School, pictured here as it was in 1931 with pupils and teacher, Lucille Van Zuuk.

pupils. Fortunately, or unfortunately, the older boys attended school only during the winter months.

An itemized expense account for the school dated March 20, 1899 shows the following bills allowed: chalk, 10 cents; new broom, 25 cents; coal, 3½ cents a bushel; teacher's pay, \$250 for the school year.

In 1915, a new school was built. It was used for religious services on many Sundays. Each Tuesday afternoon, a man from a nearby farm went to the school to teach the children about the Bible.

One form of punishment for the children was to make them cut wood for the stove to heat the school. The amount of wood ordered depended upon how bad the teacher rated the offense.

Sources: Clippings from Pella Chronicle in scrapbook owned by Jeanette Van Waardhuizen and information from Darlene Bevan, a former Pleasant Grove teacher. ELH

Children of the Pleasant Grove District attended school in three different buildings. The first was a log cabin built in 1855. The second building, half a mile south of the first one, was built of brick. This school sometimes had more than 40 pupils enrolled in all eight grades, taught by one teacher. In the 1920's, a frame school was built. Since it had a basement and a furnace, it was one of the better rural schools in the area. The furnace worked so efficiently that the children and the teacher were able to have baked potatoes for lunch each day during the winter. The potatoes were placed on a floor grate of the furnace with an empty coffee can turned upside down on top of each one. By lunch time, the potatoes were ready. Sometimes children heated soup for their lunch on the furnace grate.

For many years the school had one big all-school program

Pleasant Grove (Marion County)

Location: Approximately two miles south of Pella on the Elevator Road.

each year with everyone in the neighborhood invited to attend. The teacher selected the date, and all of the children were in a play, gave recitations or sang. Everyone took sandwiches, cakes or pies which were auctioned to the highest bidders, then eaten for refreshments. The proceeds were used to buy extra things for the school, such as a globe or maps.

The school did not have running water. The first thing the teacher did each morning, after getting the fire started in the furnace, was go to the farm house across the road to get a cream can full of water to carry to the school for the children to use during the day.

Each year, on the last day of school, mothers of the pupils and some of the other people in the neighborhood prepared basket dinners to take to the school for a neighborhood picnic.

A 1938 *Pella Chronicle* story reported that the school had a phonograph and a piano.

One of the 19th century teachers was Cyrus Cole who later became a United States Congressman.

During the early years, the school was called the Van Zee School. It was built on land which had belonged to S. Van Zee, and many of the pupils were named Van Zee.

Pleasant Ridge

Location: Eleven miles southeast of Pella on Highway 163, Section 30, Madison Township; now a part of Oskaloosa Community School District.

Source: Ernest Van Heukelom, former pupil now farming in the area. He was a member of the last board of directors for the school. ELH

The site of the Pleasant Ridge or Prine School gave it its name; it was on a ridge of land between the Skunk and Des Moines Rivers on land which originally belonged to the Prine farm.

In 1921, the school district erected a new school which was used until organization of the Pella Community School District. It was remodeled and is now used as a home.

For years, there was a small horse barn near the school which was used for the teacher's horse and for the ponies which some children rode to school. One of the most exciting moments for the children in the school one year was the first day of school when it was discovered (after the teacher's horse had been tied in the barn) that bees had made a nest in the barn during the summer vacation.

Eight grades were taught in the school with enrollment varying from eight to 32.

In the school yard were a teeter-totter, a water pump, an area for volleyball and a flagpole.

Inside the little frame building were a coal furnace, desks, a recitation bench, a few bookshelves, and a kerosene stove which was used for heating the food the children took to school for lunch.

Art class was a highlight of the school week each Friday afternoon. The children had programs on special holidays and finished the term with a big picnic in the school yard for everyone in the district.

The school was located next to a pasture which sometimes provided a change of pace for the children and teacher if one of the children would make an opening in the fence surrounding the school.

The last teacher was Ann Stevens. Among the earlier teachers were Carolyn Lytle Anderson, Edith Else Hoover, Helen Earle Jacobs, Faye Lytle

and Josephine Van Heukelom De Jong.

Pleasant View

Location: Three miles southeast of Pella by the Rock Island Railroad track.

by John J. Vander Wert

Pleasant View School District was given the name Hard Scrabble before 1900 when a scrap between the north and south parts of the district developed on where the school would be built. The school district was two miles wide, east to west; four miles long, north to south. After a considerable amount of hasseling, they finally decided that the schoolhouse would be built in the northeast corner of the dividing line east and west. Consequently, both sides basically won since it sat just a few feet to the north half.

The original building was built sometime before 1898; I have not been able to get the date. The building burned in the spring of 1923 when John E. Vander Wert was teaching. It burned late in the spring, so the board closed school for the rest of the year.

During the summer, all the people in the school district helped build the new building and had it ready for occupancy about October in the following fall.

The second building stood on the original site until 1960 when it was auctioned off. The land reverted to the Gysbert Ter Louw farm. The building was moved to Pella and stands at 406 Columbus Street.

The oldest living person from the school district today is 92-year-old Dick Hessing in the Nursing Home in Oskaloosa.

Arie Vander Wal related a

couple of incidents that happened at the school. Sometime between 1900 and 1907, Walter Grandia threw a ball through the siding on the schoolhouse. At that time, they used little hard rubber balls to play baseball.

The boys from the school district during the winter of approximately 1907 were playing fire truck with the two-wheel running gears belonging to Art Van Zee, which stood across the road from the school. D. K. Vander Wal and one of the other boys (we have not been able to determine who) were steering with the tongue. All the other boys were pushing when they hit a frozen clod and ran the tongue all the way through the side of the schoolhouse, coming out on the inside, running through the siding and blackboard just a few feet above the teacher's head. It scared the teacher so much that all she could do was come outside and tell the boys to get in the schoolhouse. I am not sure what happened then.

Arie recalled that in the early 1900's, freight trains coming from the east many times became stuck on the track on account of the steep grade close to the crossing approximately $\frac{1}{2}$ mile north of the schoolhouse. People from the district and some of the teachers would catch the freight train into Pella and ride another freight train back out and get off at the school crossing known as Dutch Gap.

During the late 1800's and early 1900's, most of the boys would go to school only at the time they did not have to help their fathers on the farm. Many fellows never graduated because they just went to school a few months a year; some went to school until they were approximately 16 years old.

The number of students would be 16 to 18 during the months that the fellows could help their fathers, and 30 pupils



PLEASANT VIEW School, sometimes called "Hard Scrabble School", its pupils and teacher in 1907.

during the winter time. I can remember during one time in the late 1930's when we had approximately 33 pupils in school. This was one of the larger districts in the vicinity.

During the existence of this school, there was always a Bible class taught during the afternoon on Friday.

During the late 30's John H. Van Arkel hauled coal to school with an old Chevrolet truck.

On New Year's Day, 1938 or 39, the boys decided during noon hour that we would fill up the area between the windows and screen with dirt. We had no electricity, Elizabeth Van Heukelom was our teacher and when she went downstairs to fire the furnace in the evening, it was pitch dark. Instead of letting the dirt out on the outside, she opened the window and let it all fall in the basement, then carried it all out with a coal bucket.

She stayed at Delis Vander Wal's, and they came over to my parents because my father was the president of the school district to tell him what happened. My father advised Miss Van Heukelom to give all the boys a paddling in the morning, and

that is the first thing that happened.

It appeared to me that when one of the fellows was elected to the board of the school district, he was automatically held in that office until he refused to be on the board any longer. My father, John E. Vander Wert, was on the school board from about 1936 until he was elected to the Mahaska county board of education in 1948. On the first day of school, the board members always came to school with scythes to cut weeds, and they would have one farmer bring a team of horses with a mower to cut the grass and get it ready for the year.

During the winter of 1935-36 we did not have school for 21 days since the large snow banks closed the road for that period of time.

In 1942 or '43, the road was graveled past the school. Until then, the road was always either dusty or muddy.

Teachers from 1898 through 1958 were:

Stanley Stewart, Goff Hackert, Harry Vander Linden, Irene Flynn, Gail Satchel, Neola Moore (quit at Christmas time because one of the boys hit her

in the head with a geography book and knocked her out), Evelyn Frickey (she was hired to straighten out the boys and was a tough coal miner's daughter), Sylvia Platte, Pearl Van Zee, Ethel Van Donselaar, Ruth Grandia Ver Ploeg, June Grandia Garret, Lynn Platte, Dora Van Ommen Van Gilst,

Lena Hoksbergen Van Rheeën-en, Edith Burgraff, John E. Vander Wert, Adeline Moore Crawford, Nellie Jacobs Merril, Helen Grootveld Lewis, Elizabeth Van Heukelom Van Zante, Eleanor Ver Ploeg Gaass, Edith Brummel Vander Linden, Eleanor Ver Ploeg Gaass, Johanna Van Roekel Mathes.

Mattie Olivier Bogaards, Marcie Valster Vander Leest, Mrs. Ted Reich, Marie Nikkel, Margaret Vander Linden, Mrs. Mable Bogaards and Mrs. Avis Van Zomeren.

Sources: *Pella Chronicle* clippings in scrapbook belonging to Janet Van Waardhuizen and Lillian De Prenger, last teacher in the North School. ELH

The first school in the district was in a house built by Eugene Dennis and later in a log cabin, until a school was built.

The first Porterville School was called Hamilton School. For reasons lost in long ago school board books of minutes, the school was moved to a new location which some parents thought was too far for their children to go to school, so the district was divided in 1887. The new school, called South Porterville, drew pupils from the south part of the district plus some children from Pleasant View School.

Fuel for the two schools, located near a strip mining area, was hauled directly from the mines.

North Porterville School was a frame building, located at the end of a long lane. The building had a small porch and in addition to the school room, an entry that was big enough for dinner buckets, water pail, tin cups for each of the children and their wraps.

In its later years, the school was heated by a fuel oil stove which made the air in the school far too dry. The teacher remedied this situation by keeping a dishpan full of water on top of the stove. This dishpan served another purpose; the children often took cans of soup to school for lunch which they heated by standing them in the warm water in the dishpan.

Every Friday afternoon, the children had art class, rearranging the desks so they could socialize with a friend while they did their cutting and coloring and pasting. Every day, the children had reading and spelling and arithmetic with the older children helping the younger ones.

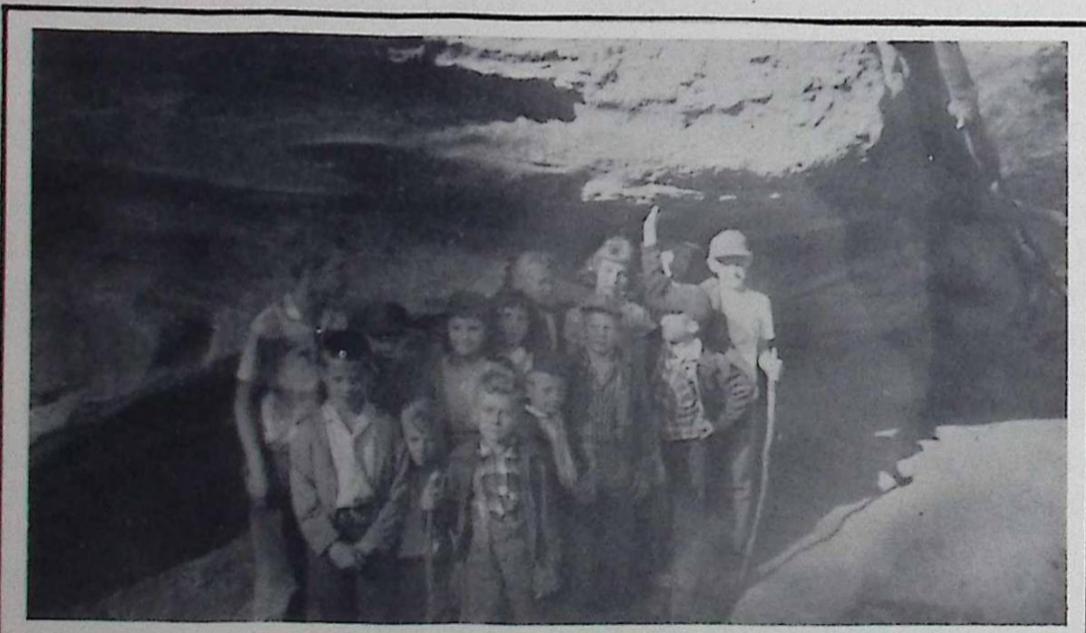
Some of the neighbors worried about the children and teacher at the little school, Lillian De Prenger recalled. They agreed that if the teacher ever needed help she would fly the flag at half staff. She never used the emergency signal, but some of the neighbors did go to the school one day when the teacher was cleaning the school and decided to burn a rubber mat. The clouds of black smoke made them think the school was on fire.

This is a list of teachers in North and South Porterville Schools from 1874 to 1953 from J. J. Vander Werff, long-time school board secretary, with first dates of hiring listed approximately every ten years. The list has more than two names some years because teachers and school board often signed contracts for a term, which was one-third of the nine-month school year.

(1874) Sally Miller, George W. Kimmel, Jennie Simkins, C.C. Hardin, W.W. Simkins, M.B. Liter, Alice Burns, Adda Monahan, M.M. Goldsmith, Flora Hopson, Mary E. Durham, (1880) Ricka M. Holst, C. Beers, C. Spruit, H. Shaw, Lily Schubring, Ella Graber, Allan Nosaman, Mary L. Hamilton, Sally

Porterville North and South

Location: South Porterville, five miles southeast of Pella in Marion County; North Porterville, three to four miles southeast of Pella, Section 26 of Lake Prairie Township.



A FIELD TRIP along the bluffs near the North Porterville School gave the teacher, Lillian DePrenger, the opportunity to take a picture of everyone in the school on a spring day in 1958.

Martin, Lou McLaughlin,
Hester Ver Ploeg,

(1890) Nora Cully, Mrs. J. Todd, Clara Webb, Permelia Compton, Hattie M. Tice, Sylvia Platt, Willard W. Wise, Kryn Van Zante, Maude Todd, Emmett Hollinghead, Julia Van Zante, Mary E. Howell, Sarah Todd, Eleanor Gully, Anna Beggs, (1900) Minnie Gaass, Bertha Van Zee, Jennie Vander Zyl, Mattie Ver Heul, A.F. De Cook, Martha Ver Heul, Govert Hackert, Katie Rietveld, A.H. Crosby, Minnie H.B. Gaass, Elizabeth Gezel, Marinus Vander Linden, Nina Norris, Maggie Van Zee, Anna McMillen, Stella Clark, Susie Dolan, Fay Tyrrell, Henrietta Ver Heul, Virgie Shinn, Pearl Van Zee, Gertrude Onderson, Geraldine Ashenbrennen,

(1910) Nellie Snyder, Edith Haines, Mary Clark, May Parker, Leona Berg, Mabelle Lemmon, Jessie Warner, Ethel Tandy, Myrtle Lackey, Hollis Byram, Margaret Wren, Alita Vander Linden, Florence Mauch, Nellie Bennink, Edward Den Adel, Lizzie Morris, Nellie Cain, Kenneth Byram, Lois Brooks, Alta M. Pope, Lorna Lewis, Helen Brooks, Etta Vander Hart, L. Goodenough, Louise Wright, Lola Comer, (1920) Alleen De Long, Mrs. Will Jansen, Lucy Hoksbergen, Jennie Harmsen, Hattie Harmsen, Elizabeth Van Zante, Reda Martin, Clara Gosselink, Cornelia De Kock,

(1930) Mabel Van Zante, Marvel Meekma, Lavina Klein, Helen Grootveld, Leona Arens, Geraldine Gosselink, Edna Hackert, Janet M. De Jong, Leona Hiemstra, Eva Mae Van Wyngarden, Johanna Van Roekel, (1941) Cleo Hill, Margery Van Heukelom, Junella Grandia, Dorothy Ver Dught, Beulah Hays, Thelma Grandia, (1950) Joyce Roorda, Mrs. R. G. McClelland, and (1953) Mrs. Bily E. Brown.

Teaching at a school in the district called "The Dennis



SOUTH PORTERVILLE PUPILS and their teacher, probably in the 1930's.

Building" at various times from 1880 to 1889 were Morris C. Dennis, Charlotte Beers, Minnie Clutter, J. L. Gelderbloem, Anna Beers and Lulu Webb.

1905, a coal room was added to the building so that the teacher would not have to go outside to get fuel for the big stove which heated the one-room school.

About 1933, the school was sold to a man who moved it and converted it into a garage. The schoolhouse which replaced it was used until the early 1950's when the board of directors voted to close the school and send the children of the district to school in Pella. The building stood on its original site until the 1960's when vandals set it on fire, and it burned to the ground.

In the early years of this century, the eighth grade graduates of the little school got together with children from neighboring schools and had a graduation ceremony. Later, Jasper County had a special ceremony in Newton each spring for all of the county's eighth grade graduates.

Richland Jasper County

Location: One mile north of the Marion-Jasper County line, four miles southeast of Galesburg in Elk Creek Township.

*Source: Jessie Carpenter.
ELH*

The first school building in Richland District was built shortly after the Civil War ended. It was a long, narrow building with windows on each side and doors on the north end of the building which permitted the cold winter wind to rush through the building whenever anyone went in or out. About

Richland Marion County

Location: Two miles east of Otley, seven miles northwest of

Pella on Road G-18.

Source: Delia Walraven. ELH

The Richland Rural School, possibly named from the rich farm land which surrounded it, was built on land taken from a farm owned by Geert Dykstra. At the time of school reorganization, the school and its contents were auctioned.

The school had eight grades, usually with from one to three students in each grade. The building was heated with a big coal stove, water was supplied by a well on the school yard.

Special events which former pupils recall were weiner roasts on the school yard, school and neighborhood programs at special times of the year, hikes into the nearby fields and school picnics.

The only vandalism ever suffered by the little school was having the outhouses turned over almost every year at Halloween.

River Ridge

Location: On a ridge overlooking the Des Moines River near the Visser farm about seven miles southwest of Pella.

Source: Martin M. Slykhuis, retired farmer who used to live in the area. ELH

The River Ridge School was a 20-by-40-foot frame building located on a ridge overlooking the Des Moines River. Most years, the school had pupils in all eight grades, all taught by one teacher. About 1900, a second school, called East River Ridge, was built so that pupils in the east part of the little school district would not have to walk so far to school.

The land and the schools were bought by the federal government when it was acquiring land in the area before the Red Rock Dam was built. The

area where the east school stood is now covered by the water of Red Rock Lake.

Rock Island

Location: Six and a half miles southeast of Pella on the line between Marion and Mahaska counties near the Rock Island Railroad track.

Bertha Van Zante began her education in the school in the first decade of this century.

by Bertha Van Zante

Rock Island School was built in 1883 on an acre of level ground with the Rock Island Railroad track on the north, the county line road on the west and a small timber area and Brice Creek to the south.

Until about 1926, the school was under the supervision of Marion County, then it was transferred to Mahaska County because the building was on the east side of the road.

In winter, the children spent the noon hour skating on the creek, coasting and snowballing or building snow forts. At other times, they played ball, Blindman's Bluff, Darebase and other games.

The windows were well protected from balls and from tramps by heavy woven steel screens. Tramps walking down the railroad track often spent the night in the schoolhouse.

A well on the premises supplied the drinking water which was kept in the school room in a pail; all children used the same dipper which was always hanging in the pail.

The room was heated with a pot-belly stove until 1917 when a new coal stove was purchased for \$47.15 and 150 bushels of coal for \$24.

The teacher was responsible for the janitor work and also furnished all of the art material she wanted the children to use.

Box suppers and pie socials were held in connection with school programs to raise money for things needed in the school. At various times, the proceeds



ROCK ISLAND PUPILS and their teacher, Bertha Harvey, in 1913.



BUILT IN 1882, Rock Island School was destroyed by fire in 1939.

of these events were used to buy an organ, a wooden case containing eight large maps on spring rollers and six reflector kerosene lamps to be used on the rare occasions when the building was used after dark.

The school library consisted of books that had been supplied by the church Sunday School and the Literary Society which used the building from 1884 until about 1890.

A fire destroyed the old schoolhouse May 12, 1939. It was rebuilt before school began in the fall.

Some of the teachers were Eva Mae Cory, 1910; Bertha Harvey, 1912; Christine Terlouw, 1918; Hattie Van Veen, 1920; Margaret Wynia, 1924; Ethel Van Zante Gosse-link, 1935, and Frieda Reed, 1941.

After the reorganization of school districts in 1958 which put the area into the Pella Community School District, H. Lee Nossaman purchased the ground and building at an auction sale and remodeled the school into a home. Later it was sold to Reuben De Geest.

1880's. A new school was built in 1910.

Three brothers who were among the pupils during the early years of the school all grew up to be a teacher in the little school and all decided to leave teaching and become doctors. They were Dr. Fred Carpenter of Pella, Dr. Oscar Carpenter of Sully and Dr. Frank Carpenter of Reasnor.

Teachers in the school from the beginning of existing records to 1938 were: Ally Bishop, D.F. Welty, Jennie M. Price, Murphy Zuick, Mebina Smith, Mary C. Peery, Anna Aplin, Anna Price, A.T. Konegor, J.L. Stigers, T.B. Weeden, Harry Howard, Jennie Barnes, Minnie Davis, Jennie Dearinger, Kate Ross, Oscar Carpenter, G. Murphy, Frank Carpenter, Alice Wod, C.A. Chenoweth, Grace Coakley, Beatrice Shiley, Mona Trout,

Lou Edelsteen, Harry Woodward, Lena C. Harbold, Emma Veith, Katie Crosby, Kathryn Crawford, Nora and Teressa Sheehy, Amy Jones, Mabel Mercer, Lettie Rhodanz, Earl Curry, Arley Mudgett, Magdalene Sheehy, Fannie Gertsma, Emma Smith, Bertha Postma, Gladys Watts, Walter Terrill, Agnes Vander Hart, Laura

Rose Hill

Location: Ten miles northwest of Pella in Elk Creek Township in Jasper County.

Source: Clippings from Pella Chronicle in scrapbook belonging to Jeanette Van Waardhuijen. ELH

The Rose Hill School probably began in the early



ROSE HILL PUPILS and their teacher, probably in the 1930's.

Miller, Samuel Ver Steeg, Anna Brummell, Della Peery, Lois Woodward, Helen Schnug, Mildred Montgomery, Marvel Meekma, Fred Carpenter, Hazel Hoffmeier and Jeanette Kaldenberg.

Sandridge

Location: On the Pella-Sully road (T-22) approximately seven miles north of Pella in Marion County.

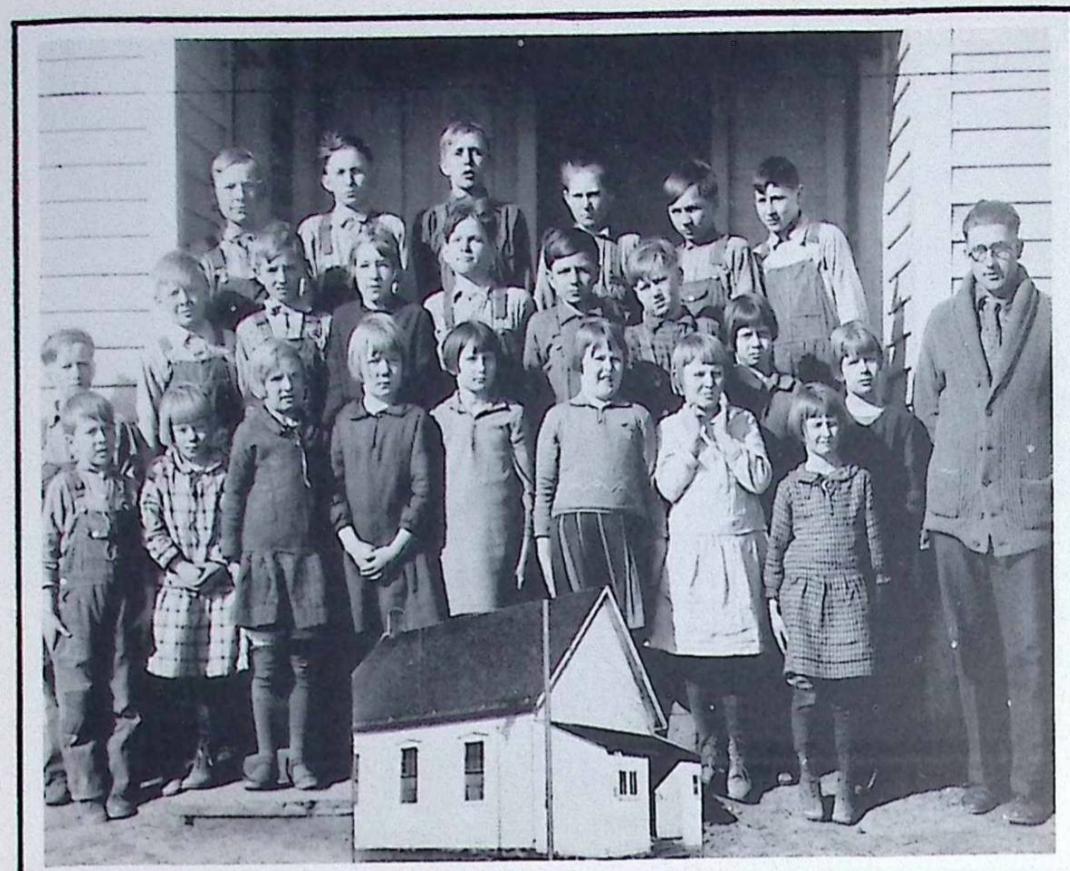
by Pete Zwank

Source: Record books of the school which go back to 1875.

We have no records to tell us when the Sandridge School was organized nor when the first school was built. In 1888, the first schoolhouse was sold to Walter Van Der Hart for \$41.50, and a new one was built. There were five bids, ranging from \$696 to \$867. The contract was let to L. Reerink for \$729 plus interest for a total of \$731.40.

In the early 1900's, the road south of the schoolyard ended a quarter of a mile east of the school, and some children had to go a long way around to get to school. There was much controversy over whether or not to build a new road east to connect with a north-south road. On April 11, 1905, the school district had a special election to vote on the new road. Those that were against the road brought their wives along to vote with a result of 17 people for the road and 18 against it. Two weeks later, another election was called, and all of the men and women in the district attended that meeting. Fifty-two votes were cast, 31 for the road and 21 against it, so it was built.

The schoolhouse that was built in 1888 burned on March 8, 1944. The rest of the school year, the children and the



SANDRIDGE PUPILS and their teacher with an inset of their school; probably taken in the 1930's.

teacher went to Pete Slycord's house, a quarter of a mile west of the school site. Board members visited several school houses in the county to get ideas for a new building. At a special meeting attended by almost everyone living in the district, it was decided to construct a 30 by 38-foot frame building. The men in the district agreed to donate their work to dig the basement, and the contract to build the schoolhouse was let to Veenstra and Croll for material and labor for the sum of \$5,425. Pella National Bank issued the bonds for the money at two percent interest. The fall term began in the Slycord house, but after a few weeks, the children and their teacher were able to move into the new schoolhouse.

The new Pella Community School District began operating in the fall of 1958, but classes were still held in Sandridge schoolhouse until September, 1960, for some of the upper grades.

The Sandridge School stood unused until February, 1961 when it was auctioned for \$1130 and moved to Beacon.

Sandridge School in 1900

by Mrs. I.G. Roorda

This is a report from Mrs. Roorda, who attended the school in the first decade of this century, for the Buck Saw column of C.C. Buerkens printed in the Pella Chronicle September 8, 1976.

It was a large, gray one-room schoolhouse with attached coal house, named Sandridge because of the sandy composition of the soil in the surrounding area.

The building was situated in the north end of a large playground. In the south end was a small barn which housed a burro, and later a pony, both owned by Harry Awtry who rode them to school. (Not at the same time, of course!) Two outhouses were also in this area.

The schoolhouse was furnished with only the bare necessities. One corner had a small bookcase containing the entire school library, seldom replenished with new books. Here, also, were shelves which held our dinner pails (originally

syrup or tobacco containers), also a container for our daily supply of drinking water.

Although there was a well on the premises, the purity of the water was at times questionable, which made it necessary to bring fresh water from a nearby neighbor, usually by the pupils.

There was no cloakroom. Wraps were hung on nails in the walls on two sides of the room — the other two walls were covered with blackboards. Lighting was from wall-hung kerosene lamps, backed by reflectors. The teacher's desk and chair, and later an organ, were on a raised platform. In front of this platform was a bench which was for pupils to use when they recited their daily lessons to the teacher.

A large pot-bellied coal-burning stove was in the center of the room. In very cold weather its heat often didn't reach the far corners of the room, and the area near it was congested with pupils, wet wraps, leggings and overshoes during most of the morning. Seats with attached desks of graduated size accommodated two and sometimes even three children. They held all of our books, slates, writing tablets, et cetera.

The building was a social center, too, often used for evening entertainments and the very popular spelling bees attended by participating spellers from miles away.

Regular Sunday morning church and Sunday School services were held as well as Catechism classes during the week, these being taught by a minister or a church elder and from 1927 to 1959 by John R. Van Gorp.

Games played were Blackman, Run Sheep Run, Fox and Geese, Mumblety Peg and baseball. We skated on a nearby pond and coasted down a steep hill.

The following teachers served, beginning in 1901: Minerva

Pugh, Florence Hamner, Hattie Harmsen, Julia Van Zante, Orville Nye, James Funk, Katie Flanagan, Elizabeth Clifford, Henrietta F. Gaass and Nella Haun (1910).

School was in session from September through June. Most of the farm boys were out of school during the busy planting and harvest times and returned to school for the winter term, often at the age of 14 to 20, so attendance was higher at that time.

Teachers sometimes were inadequately prepared, grading was haphazard and attendance for some families, very irregular. However, the basic "Three R's" were usually learned, and those who desired an education managed to reach their goal.

another school was built half a mile south of "Four-Mile Railroad Crossing" or four miles west and half a mile south of Pella.

The original school was called East Silver Grove and the new one went by the name of West Silver Grove.

The building used for East Silver Grove no longer exists. The West School now is used as a home.

For 10 years, about the time the school began, N.L. Vander Linden, a farmer living in the area, went to the school every Friday afternoon to teach the catechism.

Some of the teachers at West Silver Grove between 1885 and 1938 were Mrs. John Vander Wal, Bessie Bootsma, Bessie Vander Linden, Mrs. Arie De Bruyn, Anne Hospers, Nellie and Antoinette Neels, Luetta Witzenberg, Mary Renaud, Mary LeCocq, Hester Ver Ploeg, Gladys Fennema, Geraldine Gosselink and Bernice Wagner.

Sheesley

Located in Section 9 of Richland Township in Mahaska County.

Silver Grove East and West

Location: East Silver Grove was northwest of Pella in Section 5 of Lake Prairie Township. West Silver Grove was in the northwest corner of Section 6 of the south portion of Lake Prairie Township.

*Source: Pella Chronicle stories clipped by Mrs. Janet Van Waardhuizen in the 1930's.
ELH*

A school was built in about 1875 a mile and a half west of Pella on Highway 163 on a farm now owned by the Terpstras. In the 1920's, the district was divided, since some parents felt that their children had to go too far to get to school, and

Summit

Location: Two miles west of Otley in Section 8 of Summit Township

*Source: A 1936 Pella Chronicle story in a scrapbook belonging to Janet Van Waardhuizen.
ELH*

The first Summit School was organized about 1860. The building, painted white, was used for school and for occasional church services.

When the first building was destroyed by fire in 1924, the district soon built a new school just east of the first site. It was used until the district became a part of the Pella district in 1958.

One of the first teachers was Anna Vander Ploeg who became the wife of B. H. Van Spankeren. Another teacher was Dick Van Zante who later became an attorney in Pella.



VALLEY SCHOOL PUPILS and their teacher, Mrs. Mamie Smith in 1909.

Valley

Location: Three and a half miles southeast of Pella on old Airport Road; Section 13 of Lake Prairie Township.

*Source: Alice Vander Zyl, last teacher of the school.
ELH*

In 1897, a little school was built on land in the valley at the edge of the farm belonging to Tone and Edward Blom, and the people in the area decided to call it Valley School.

The original building was replaced with a newer one in 1928 or 1929 with a furnace for heat and a well for water. The school had the traditional equipment and furnishings. A few shelves in the room held the school library and the storage place for the McGuffy and Baldwin readers the children used.

The school closed in 1958 when the Pella Community School District was reorganized. The school building was sold and made into a house which burned to the ground a few years later.

Among the teachers in the school were Katie Boland Grandia, Leona Vander Linden, Mr. Kersbergen, Dena Verhey Hospers, Anna Hospers, Mamie Smith, Govert Hackert, Edith Burgraff, Nellie Bennink Gosselink, Joe Van Den Berg, Helen Neyensch, Ethel Roovaart Borgman, Helen Brooks, Cornelia Gosselink Van Donselaar, Sara Klyn, Lavina Klein Vander Werf, Edna De Jong, Ed Van Arkle, Effie Hiemstra, Beulah Grandia Roorda, Esther Kooi, Thelma Van Hemert, Ruth Verhoef and Alice Vander Zyl.

Valley View

Location: North of Otley; northwest of Pella in Section 1, SW corner of Summit Township in Marion County on farm owned by Hessel Van Zante.

Sources: Mrs. H. W. Vriezelhaar and Mrs. Peter Westerkamp. ELH

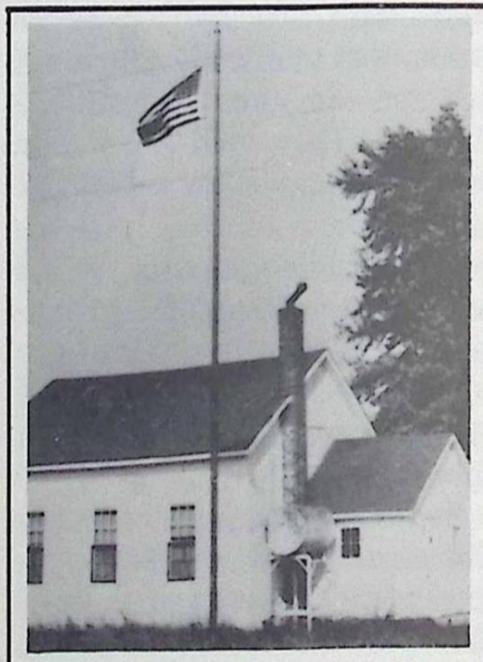
Valley View School was started in 1872 and used same schoolhouse from then until the school closed in 1958. An enclosed entryway and a coalhouse were added later.

For several years after the school closed, former pupils and teachers held an annual reunion in the little old schoolhouse. Now the building has been divided into two sections and moved a few yards from its original site. The enclosed porch has been enlarged and is now a garage. The main part of the school is a farm storage building.

Men usually were the ones who ran the board of directors in a rural school, but for several years in the 1920's, a woman, Mrs. John F. Hiemstra was on the Valley View school board.

For many years, one of the men of the neighborhood, Dielos Van Zante, went to school every Friday afternoon to teach catechism class.

Among the teachers at the school were Annetta Gilbert, Elvin Nolan, Hallie Swain Dyk-



THE FLAG FLYING at Valley View School means that school was in session. Rural teachers had to fill out a flag report at the end of each school year telling how many days they had flown the flag, who usually raised it, and what kind of ceremony they had. The report included a place to explain why they did not fly the flag on certain days. Bad weather was the only acceptable excuse.

stra, Henrietta Gaass, Nellie Van Rheenen Klein, Robert McGraw, Grayce Pannekock De Geus, Annette Van Der Hart Ter Louw, Elsie McReynolds Van Zante, Carolyn Brummel Van Weelden, Alice Ver Dught and Margaret Hiemstra Vogelaar.

Warren

Location: One-half mile southwest of the Warren Bridge on the Pella-New Sharon Road, on the east side of the road, approximately seven miles from Pella.

Source: Marion De Geus, member of the Warren School board of directors for eight years and Barbara Vander Werff. ELH

The record books for the Warren District have disappeared, but people in the area believe that the school began in about 1880 and had only one schoolhouse during its years as a rural school.

The white frame schoolhouse, along with its contents, was the first one to be auctioned to the highest bidder when the new Pella Community School District started selling the rural school buildings. The building was sold for \$352 and moved to a farm west of Olivet. It is now used as a farm building. The coal shed was sold for \$40 to Clarence Bogaard who owned the neighboring farm at that time. A pump out in a field on the farm owned by Guilford Steenhoek is all that is left of the school.

Wheatgrow

Location: In Mahaska County three and a half miles northeast of Pella in Section 5 of Black Oak Township on the Peoria road.

Source: A 1975 letter from Joyce Hart, secretary for the Mahaska County Satellite Office of Area Education Agency No. 15 and an undated Pella Chronicle clipping in a scrapbook owned by Janet Van Waardhuizen. ELH

The first school for the Wheatgrow District was built in 1875 on land which had belonged to Hardin Tice. Wheat growing under the building while it was being constructed gave the new school its name. Later, another school was built across the road from the first one; it was destroyed by fire on December 29, 1911 and replaced by another building.

The late Arie Tysseling who was secretary of the district's school board for 40 years, held the job longer than anyone else in the Wheatgrow District and may have been a school board member longer than anyone else who ever held such a job in the area which is now the Pella Community School District.

In its early years, the school had as many as 68 pupils enrolled some years.

For many years, the school had an annual Community Day sometime during the school year. The children presented a program and the adults of the school district went to the school to hear it, carrying refreshments with them.

The earliest record about the Wheatgrow School in the area school office is a teacher's report for the term ending November 28, 1913. The teacher, Ruth Grundman, reported that 21 students ranging in age from five to 14 were enrolled in the school.

Records for the school, closed in 1958, indicate that the county superintendent usually gave it a "fair" rating, noting that the school was on a one-acre plot of land with a heating stove and electricity, water from a hand pump in the school yard, only cold water for children to wash

with and restrooms of the outdoor variety.

A newspaper report in 1937 said:

Improvements in the past five years include the following: painting of interior and exterior, addition of bookcase for library, increase of number of books from 70 to 200, addition of kindergarten table and six chairs, new piano, and building of enclosed porch.

The last teacher of the school was Retha Mae Vande Haar.

White Breast

Location: Eight miles west of Pella and a little east of Fifield.

Source: Undated newspaper clipping (about 1937) from Pella Chronicle in scrapbook belonging to Janet Van Waardhuizen. ELH

The first school in the White Breast District was built in 1845, two years before the Hollanders settled in the area. John Van Hemert, who attended the school in the nineteenth century, reported after his retirement, that the Dutch and English did not mix very well in the days when he attended the school. "There was peace and harmony on the school ground because the rule was that there should be no fighting; the fur began to fly as soon as the premises were vacated."

The original school was replaced by a new building about 1920 which served the district until the time of reorganization when part of the area joined the Knoxville School District, and part of it became a part of the Pella District. The school site is now covered by Lake Red Rock.

Unto the Fifth Generation

There are seven families living in the area which used to be the Sandridge School District whose children are the fifth generation to attend school in Sandridge or Pella.

They are Mr. and Mrs. Roland Eysink, Mr. and Mrs. Daryl Van Steenis, Mr. and Mrs. Marvin L. Van Haaften, Mr. and Mrs. John S. Gosselink, Mr. and Mrs. Lee Van Gorp, Mr. and Mrs. Howard Westerkamp and Mr. and Mrs. Myron De Jong.

Undoubtedly, with some research, similar reports could be made about almost all of the rural schools now in the Pella Community School District.

Spelling Matches

Spelling matches were an important part of school life for many years. Students in the schools of the area during the first half century of their existence remember spelling matches in their classrooms, in contests between schools and at county and state levels. This

is an excerpt from a **Pella Chronicle** report on a spelling match in March, 1941.

The contest lasted for thirty-two rounds. The last four remaining in the contest were Beulah Caswell of Knoxville Junior High; Marilyn Marsh of Sunnyside Rural School; Carroll Fast of Pershing School; and Clarence Menninga of Valley Rural School. Some of the hard words spelled were pharmaceutical, parallelogram, villain, domineering, hyacinth, goddesses, exuberance, profiteering.

The person who was fourth in the contest went down on the word "barracks." For some time first and second place was anybody's battle, as the contestant failed to spell the next word in the list after spelling the word missed by his opponent. After three tense rounds, Clarence Menninga finally succeeded in winning.

The first word missed after only two remained in the contest was the word "annihilation." Clarence Menninga spelled this word correctly and then missed

the word "meringue" which was spelled correctly by Carroll Fast. The next word in the list was "nonchalant" which Carroll failed to spell. Clarence spelled it correctly and after spelling "phenomenon" was declared the county winner.

Young Mr. Menninga will represent Marion County in the state contest to be held in Des Moines on the 19th of April.

Snow Holidays

During the first century of its existence, the Pella school system did not close school classes for the weather. Teachers and pupils put on boots and extra layers of clothing and went to school, no matter how deep the snow.

When the district reorganized in 1957 and a large proportion of the students were riding school buses, the board decided that the school would have a snow holiday anytime that buses could not navigate the rural roads. The first such holiday was on December 12, 1961. A total of five school days were lost that year. Three of them were made up during spring vacation and two days were made up on May 30 and 31 at the end of the scheduled school year.

Since that time, snow holidays have been declared in nine of the 16 school years. The largest number was during the 1978-79 school year when school was called off for seven days because of snow or ice. In addition to those days, on January 23 the buses loaded up the students they had just delivered to school and began returning them to their homes at 8:30 a.m. because of bad weather conditions, and on February 8, school was dismissed after half a day of classes.



A PRIVATELY-OWNED BUS carried high school students from Leighton in 1938 and added Otley to the route in 1939. Pella Independent School District purchased a bus in 1940, and the fleet has been growing ever since.

People Now

Students and Teachers

People Making History in 1979

Plot, setting and character are the major elements of any story. The basic plot of the story of the Pella schools remains the same as it was on the first day in the log cabin schools, the efforts to educate the young people of Pella. Details have changed as buildings have been added or razed or changed, but the setting remains Pella.

The story element of Pella school history that changes most rapidly is the characters. Each school year approximately one-thirteenth of the students graduate, and a similar number enter as kindergartners. Each year, a few faculty members change. Within 13 years, all of the pupils have changed, and many of the teachers.

On these pages are the characters who were weaving the threads of the history of the Pella schools in 1979.

Al De Wild, PHS Class of 1953, took the pictures.

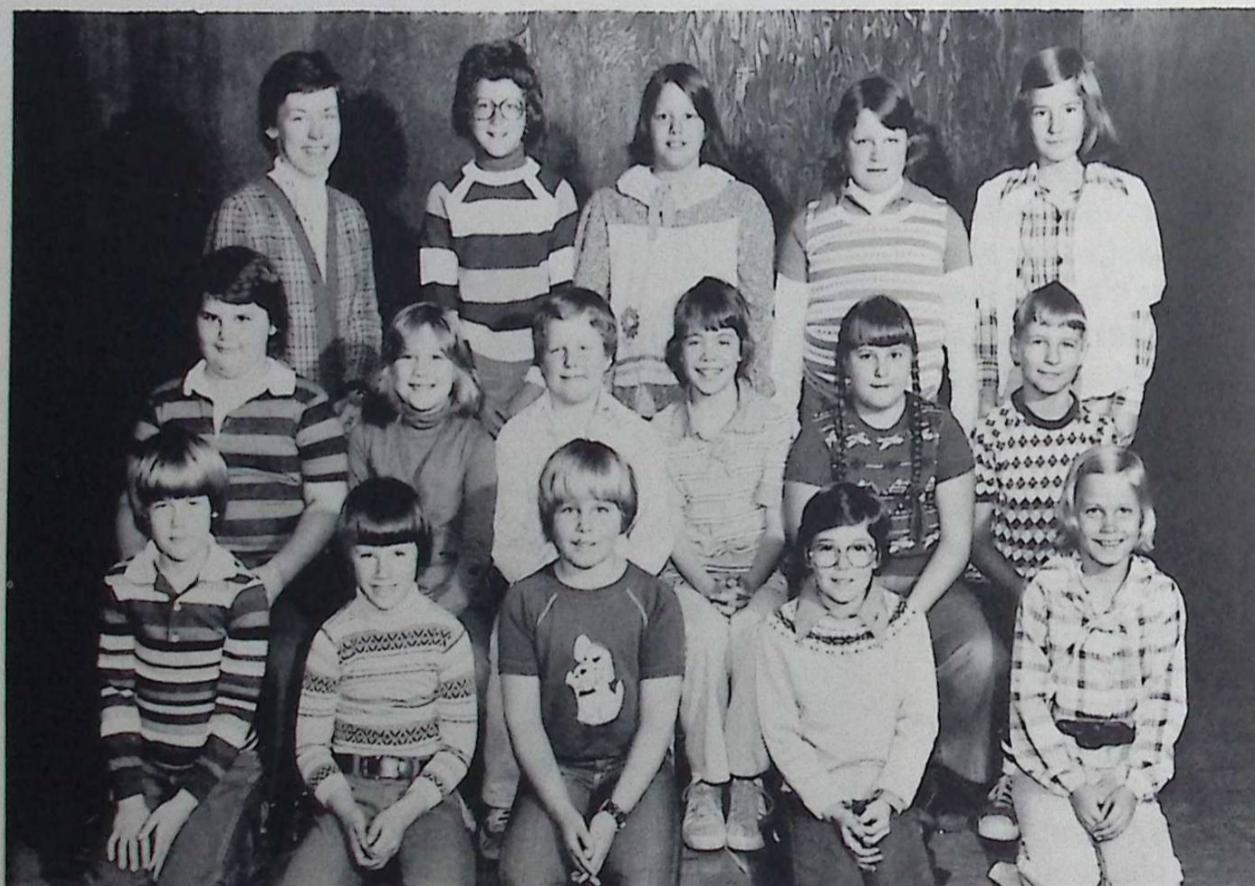


CENTRAL PARK was the site for much of the action for school-age people of Pella since it was first laid out in 1847. It was the place for celebrations, festivals, operettas, band concerts, Easter egg hunts, bicycle races, games, flirting, roller skating and just sitting. Not caring that they are in a place where school children have gathered for one and a third centuries, these children look for Easter eggs in 1979.

Otley



OTLEY, KINDERGARTEN, FIRST AND SECOND — FRONT ROW: Kim Uitermarkt, Jenny Schroder, Michael Garrett, Jason Van Roekel, Darin Baarda, Jenny Rozenberg, Timmy Beller. MIDDLE ROW: Francine Melroy, Stacie Uitermarkt, Jeremy Miller, Scott Van Haaften, Brad Van Zee, Amy Mitchell, Craig Van Zante. BACK ROW: LaVina Ruthven (first and second), Marlene Hugen (kindergarten teacher), Sandi Hagemeyer, Andi Hagemeyer, Shelley Poortinga, Tim Spoelstra, Pat Garrett.



OTLEY, THIRD AND FOURTH — FRONT ROW: Kevin Van Haaften, Brad Van Vark, James Mitchell, Susie Grandia, Marcy Ver Meer. MIDDLE ROW: Cindy Duinink, Susan De Geus, Bruce Willemsen, Joan Hugen, Susan De Prenger, Alan Van Dusseldorp. BACK ROW: Kris Gaulke (teacher), Julie Van Zee, Kelly Uitermarkt, Genny Grooters, Chris Poortinga.

Leighton

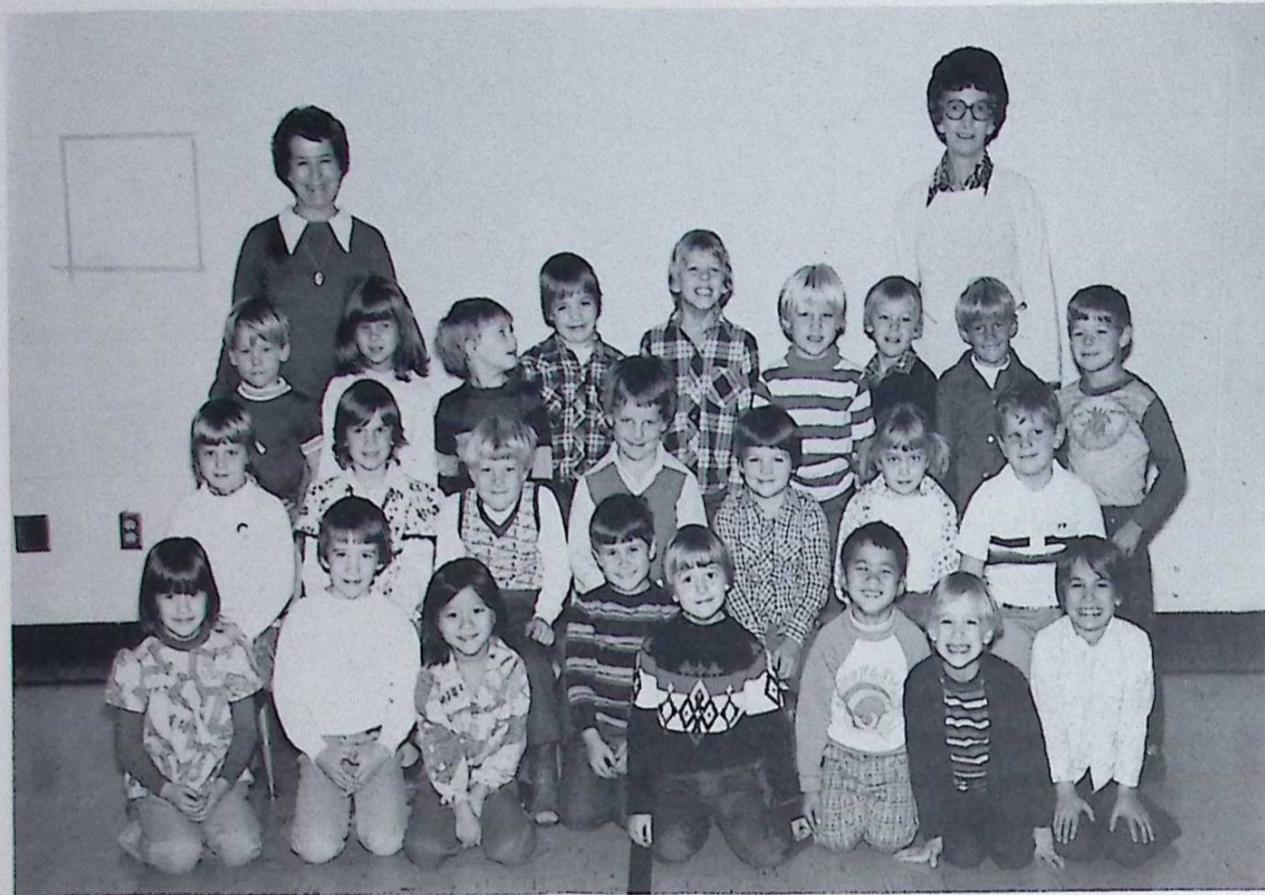


LEIGHTON KINDERGARTEN AND FIRST — FRONT ROW: Kevin Crile, Guy Hill, Kim Bentima, Mary Ver Ploeg. MIDDLE ROW: Melissa George, Matt Van Maanen, Mary Brouwer, Tammy De Jong, Jamie Bogaard. BACK ROW: Faith Waal (teacher), Brenda Rempe, Kim Newendorp, Brad Rempe.



LEIGHTON, SECOND AND THIRD — FRONT ROW: Mike Vos, David Van Heukelom, Becky Weicht, Shane Klay, Sherri Van Hal. MIDDLE ROW: Shelly Ver Ploeg, Tammy Vander Wilt, Kristy Klein, Andy Van Maanen, Brenda Van Hal. BACK ROW: Jessie Lindsey (teacher), Randy Waddell, Kathy Crile, Jeff Van Engelenhoven.

Lincoln



MORNING KINDERGARTEN AT LINCOLN SCHOOL, 1979-1980 — FRONT ROW: Vicki Tysseling, Sam Mass, Vanh Thao, Danny Schnoebelen, Lucas Ver Meer, Shane Ervin, George Lauber, John Crowe. MIDDLE ROW: Heather Anthony, Angie Ryken, Jon Kuiper, Joel Plantinga, Lance Van Zee, Betsy Brandl, Matt Bandstra. BACK ROW: Josh Mick, Amy Rozeboom, Kurtis Spoelstra, Jon Borg, Arlen Dykhuis, Brent Westercamp, Chris De Zwarte, Chris Lichti, Kevin Langstraat. Teacher, Connie Hinga; teacher aide, Johnita Van Wyk.



LINCOLN, MORNING KINDERGARTEN — FRONT ROW: Jeff Lucas, Teresa Van Vark, Jason Kroes, Jeff Vander Linden, Stacy Ozinga, Phillip Hedrick, Chad Carroll. MIDDLE ROW: Troy Sheeley, Chris Bye, Monte Horman, Ryan Vos, Brent Grier, Chris Van Gorp, Greg Witzenburg, Jay Bogaards. BACK ROW: Connie Hinga (teacher), Jamey Ryken, Kristie Roehr, Brian Toom, Jennifer Vander Werff, Pam Krug, Wendy Van Tuyl.

Lincoln



AFTERNOON KINDERGARTEN AT LINCOLN SCHOOL, 1979-1980 — FRONT ROW: Kirk Hackert, Chip Voorhis, Brad Van Gorkum, Stacy Peters, Rochelle Hugen, Mindy Dop, Keith Hogie. MIDDLE ROW: Mike Hammond, John Boardman, Jason Troyer, Katie Enyeart, Marc Van Gorp, Dan Kuyper, Darren Nunnikhoven, Allyson Anderson, Jory Brass. BACK ROW: Brian Henderson, Todd Pringle, Kari Roehr, Chad De Jong, Sarah Carlson, Sally Snook, John Vanden Berg. Teacher, Connie Hinga.

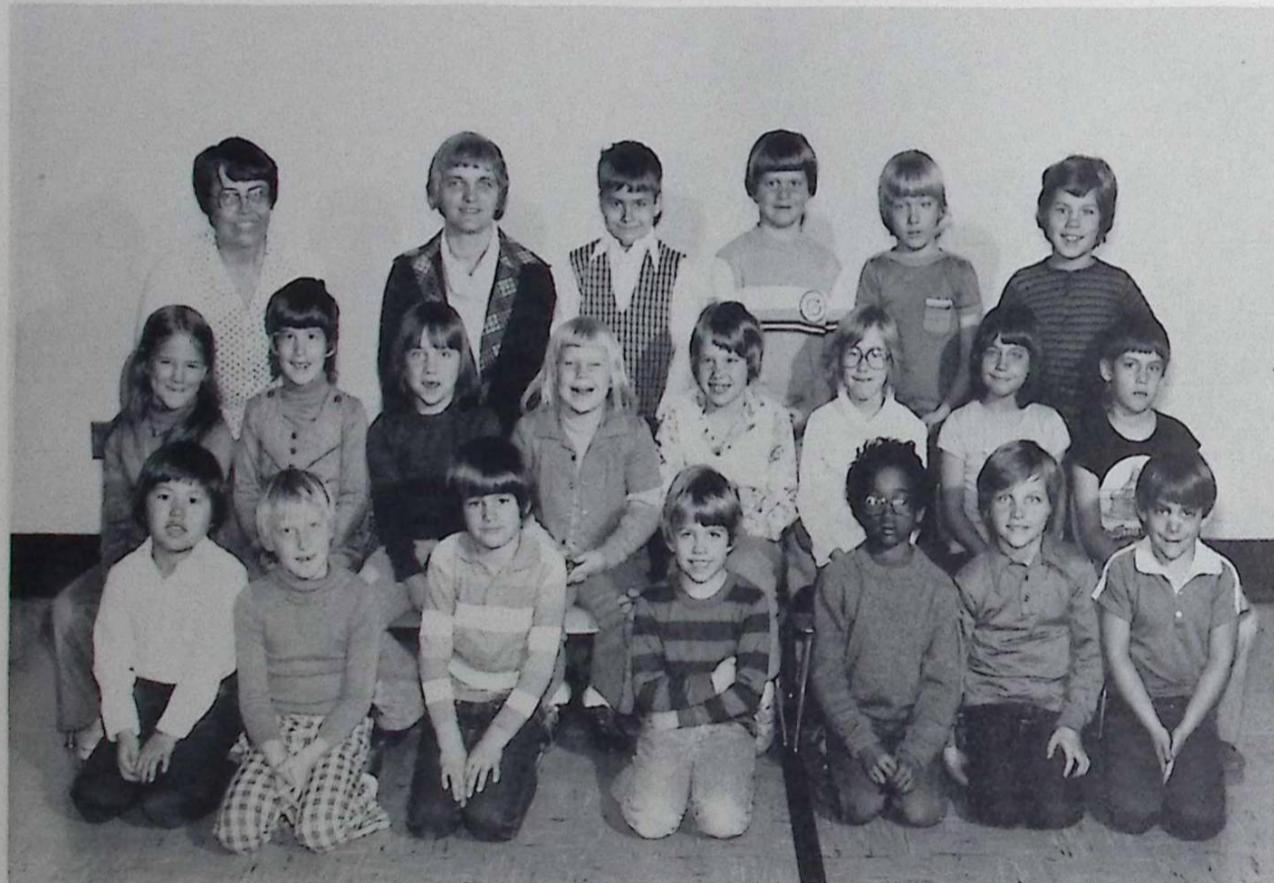


LINCOLN, AFTERNOON KINDERGARTEN — FRONT ROW: Danny De Cook, Nikki Nollen, Tricia Van Waardhuizen, Mark Klyn, David Cottington, Darla Vande Lune, Kristy De Jong, Kevin Cottington, Alicia Dieleman. MIDDLE ROW: Peter Kopecek, Christopher Camp, Dawn Torrents, Jeremy Vande Noord, Sean Chapman, Desiree Gott, Tiffany Vander Wert, Curtis Loynachan. BACK ROW: Connie Hinga (teacher), Scott Braafhart, Shelly Den Hartog, Monte Horman, Lance Klein, Chad Van Waardhuizen, Craig Fischer, Sylvia Webber, Christopher Rumer.

Lincoln



LINCOLN, FIRST — FRONT ROW: Kristy Butler, Bradley Albert, Jennifer Eggerling, David Smiley, Stacy Schuring, David Blazer, Jane Kuiper, Laurie Cronin, Michelle Poortinga. MIDDLE ROW: Tammy Draper, Errin Keltner, Lisa Wichhart, Sabrina Thompson, Kirk Simmons, Mark Hogie, Robin De Penning, Chad Huisman. BACK ROW: Maryann Hutchinson, Mrs. Mildred Meyer (teacher and aide), Ben Van Dyke, Penny Husted, Carol De Bruin, Lance Beyer, Greg Williams, John Tomljenovich.



LINCOLN, FIRST — FRONT ROW: Jeong Choi, Mike Verros, Mathis Grier, Chad McSweeney, Jeremy Ogren, Darren Pierce, Brian Albert. MIDDLE ROW: Joy Van Wyk, Teri Vande Krol, Stacey Wharton, Holly Nollen, Jill Bancroft, Jaci Bokhoven, Jeanna Vermeer, Marc Held. BACK ROW: Joan Walvoord (teacher), Mrs. Van Dusseldorp (aide), John Buwalda, Spencer Bogaard, Chris Huisman, Jeff Spencer.

Lincoln



LINCOLN, FIRST — FRONT ROW: Debra Van Sant, Kimberly Butler, Leisa Eggerling, Robin Hulleman, Kimberly Willemsen, Taylor Williamson. MIDDLE ROW: Carrie Oakason, Cindy Kai-sand, Darrin Geetings, Kevin Keuning, Denise Hite, Jason Blommers, Joe Mick. BACK ROW: Wilma Hoekstra (teacher), Johnita Van Wyk (teacher aide), David Vander Werff, Chris Armes Scott Vander Molen, Steven De Bruin, Brad Roorda.



LINCOLN, SECOND — FRONT ROW: Mike Bragg, Jacqueline Sabin, Julie Fox, Kevin Hackert, Julie Voorhis, Mi Choi, Kelly Vander Werff, Shannon Husted, Ross Ver Helst, Scott Clement, Chris Shives. MIDDLE ROW: Robbie Cronin, Matt Hutchinson, Yee Thao, Rachel Vanden Oever, Chris De Heus, Alissa Rietveld, Lance Meyer, Joe Martin, Joel Kane. BACK ROW: Harriet Philby (teacher), Alan Hoksbergen, Mike Klyn, Vance Westercamp, Dwayne Vande Krol, Adam Van Wyk, Michele Leydens, Kristin Fischer, Debbie Miller.

Lincoln



LINCOLN, SECOND — FRONT ROW: Kim Nelson, Darin Vande Lune, David Van Gorp, Kevin Terlouw, Julie Vander Beek, John Dingeman, Karla Wiersema, Tricia Steenhoek, Roberta Emery. MIDDLE ROW: Brent Vander Waal, Heather Wegter, Niles Van Dyke, Sheri Vander Hart, Willie Lichti, Beth Van Vark, Brian Vroom, Jayna Blom. BACK ROW: Marla Kettler (teacher), Jonyl Burney, Tammy De Heer, Rob Blom, Ted Lucas, Mike Dop, Charles Koopman, Quint Van Rheenen.

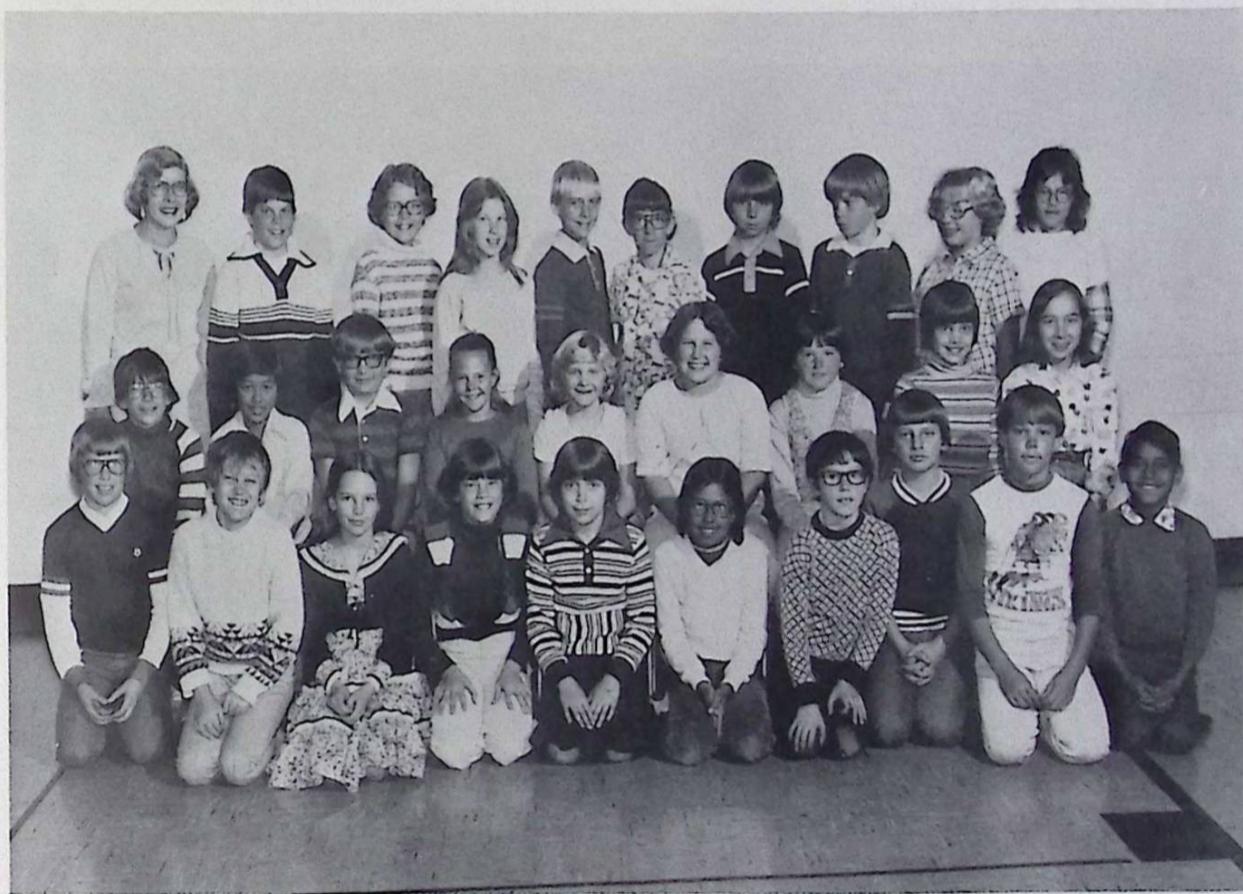


LINCOLN, THIRD — FRONT ROW: Brian Mathes, Kirk Cosaert, John Watkins, Chad Klein, E.J. Anderson, Doug Witzenburg. MIDDLE ROW: Jeff Vander Werf, Jeff Bogaards, Todd Roorda, Michele Eachen, Eric Hiemstra, Kaye Cottington, Amy Hedrick, Kevin Vande Lune. BACK ROW: Blanche Deal (teacher), Barbara Wichhart, Tonya Van Wyk, Jaci Ryken, Sharon De Bruin, Kim Van Rees, Tim Verhey.

Lincoln



LINCOLN, THIRD — FRONT ROW: Tee Jay Bye, Sandy De Ruiter, Chris Hammond, Eric Marshall, Dan Vander Beek. MIDDLE ROW: Vicki Van Roekel, Susan Nossaman, Amy Schakel, Kim Van Dalen, Eric Kaldenberg, John Gilbert. BACK ROW: Emily Thies (teacher), Jeff Vander Wert, Rhonda Bielema, Molly Enyeart, Brenda Van Ee, Craig Vander Leest.



LINCOLN, FOURTH — FRONT ROW: Scott Renaud, Jeff Hoksbergen, Laurie Meyer, Maureen Enyeart, Jalene Vander Linden, Stacey Lindgren, Mark Phillip Webber, Bryce Westerkamp, Douglas Van Wyk, Michael Eachen. MIDDLE ROW: Douglas Kane, Joe Lopez, Bruce Draper, Julie Bogaards, Jamie Bremer, Victoria Veldhuizen, Michelle Witzenburg, Marne Williamson, Wendy Breen. BACK ROW: Mary Helen Wilkinson (teacher), Mike DeCook, Paula Jo Malin, Jody Blommers, Todd Rempe, Rusty Husted, Trevis Umble, David Vande Voort, Linda Blommers, Diane Geetings.

Lincoln



LINCOLN, FOURTH — FRONT ROW: Lisa Jaarsma, David Sneller, Matt DeVries, Mitch Lucas, Marisa Bak, Mark Anthony, Mike Blazer, Kurt Kerger, Chad Boehlje. MIDDLE ROW: Troy Klein, Steve Reese, Bruce Van Sant, Stacy See, Mark Campbell, Kelly Voorhis, Debbie Garrison, Samantha Bye, Jim Vroom. BACK ROW: Lois Allen (teacher), Mindy Vander Ploeg, Daphne Steenhoek, Theresa Stoneking, Kathy Vander Werff, Cheryl Hessing, Jim DeVoss, Teresa Beyer, Steve Hensyel.



LINCOLN, FIFTH — FRONT ROW: Brenda Dunsmoor, Julie Eliason, Julie Klein, Naomi Vanden Oever, Naomi Liming, Shelley Barton. MIDDLE ROW: Jeong Choi, Vince Van Weelden, Marsha Nunnikhoven, Vickie Rempe, Brad Van Rheenen, Kevin Upton. BACK ROW: Mrs. Marilee Sjaardema (substitute), Dennis Vander Horst, Ward Van Dyke, Kristi Angove, Kathleen Tomljenovich, Mike Witzenburg, Carole Van Zante. (Gladys Sutherland was regular teacher.)

Lincoln



LINCOLN, FIFTH — FRONT ROW: Amy Robus, Jeff Taylor, Gary Willemsen, Curtis Vink, Lisa Spoelstra, Julie Breuklander. MIDDLE ROW: Brenda Van Dusseldorp, Beth Kane, Patty Nation, Allan Weicht, Stephanie Schulte, Brenda Kirschman, Jaci Verwers. BACK ROW: Joyce Schippers (teacher), Dave Vander Horst, Tom Van Zee, Katherine Van Zee, Stewart Roberts, Doug Rigen, Donald Stoops.



LINCOLN, FIFTH — FRONT ROW: Thomas Liming, Melissa Tierney, Kendra Van Dalen, Jodi Den Adel, Keri Thomassen, Rick Bogaard, Carol Toom, Jim Tysseling. MIDDLE ROW: Ron Berglund, Mark Huisman, Doug De Jong, Stacey Nelson, Kirk Wegter, Beth Kuiper, Beth Aldrich, Mark Iverson, Joel Vander Hoek, John Shearer. BACK ROW: Theola Van Arkel (teacher), David Witzenburg, Greg Ongna, Todd Subbert, Holly Ogren, Christy Blom, Marlene Mathes, Kimberly Duven, Laura Van Zante.

Lincoln

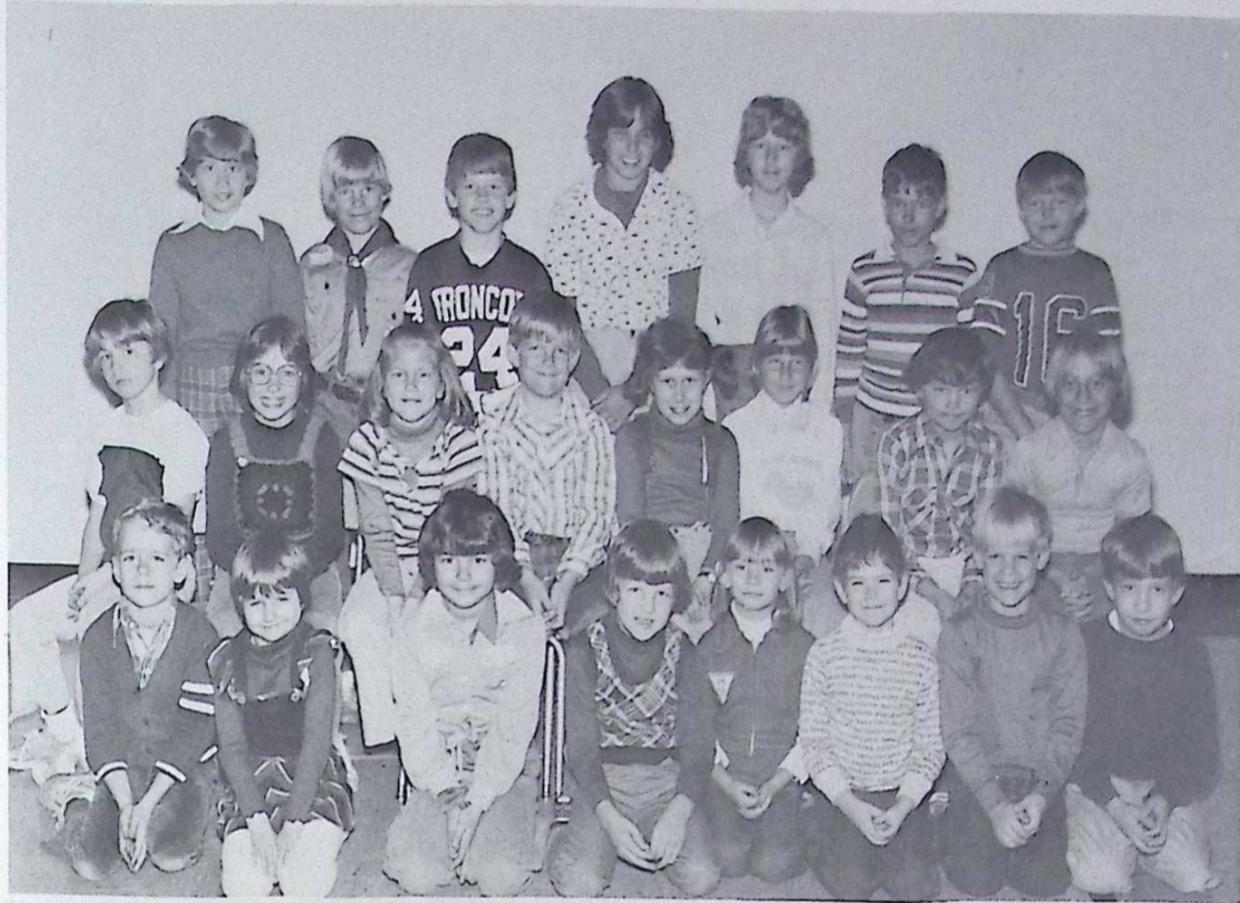


LINCOLN, FIFTH — FRONT ROW: Kenneth Van Nimwegen, Vicki Vos, Lisa Kroes, Lisa Vander Linden, Kent De Jong, David De Jong, Jeff Bragg, Marty Kerger. MIDDLE ROW: David Meinders, Kevin Van Der Hart, Steven Buwalda, Staci Bogaard, Sally Sagraves, Mindy Ver Ploeg, Dale Van Zante, Lisa Fuller, Mark Hasler, Vince Vos. BACK ROW: Darlene Bevan (teacher), Arlan Van Dusseldorp, Kim Hackert, Cindy Terpstra, Rebecca Bosch, Troy Budding, Beth Van Heukelom, Cristy Van Essen.



LINCOLN, SPECIAL EDUCATION — FRONT ROW: Samantha Bye, Roberta Emery, Quintin Van Rheenen, Chris Shives, Mike Beaver. BACK ROW: Karen Beek (teacher), Mike Eachen, David Sneller, Kim Van Rees, Joel Kane.

Lincoln



LINCOLN SCHOOL pupils absent on picture day were — FRONT ROW: Robbie Sullivan, Michele Bennett, Wendy Schakel, Wade Van Dyke, Lisa Brees, Jacob Marvel, Jonathan Rippen-trop, Brad Borg. MIDDLE ROW: Steve Folkerts, Nicci Vruwink, Kelly Pothoven, Dennis Bogaards, Jenny Vandenberg, Angela Dieleman, Trevor Rus, Sean Wharton. BACK ROW: Jenny Brandl, Kyle Ecton, Richie Schulte, Anita De Ruiter, Jeanne Dykhuis, John Langstraat, Andrew Hutchinson.

Webster



WEBSTER, MORNING KINDERGARTEN — FRONT ROW: Rebecca Stuart, Teresa Van Steenis, Joel Bennett, King Pham, Renee Dean, Nathan Brown, Liz Meyers, Chris Burney. MID-DLE ROW: Joy Anderson, Jaren Van Zante, Matt Van Weelden, Abbey Crawford, Corey Goodyke, Jenny Clink, Susan Dop, Julie Van Gorp. BACK ROW: Martha Paul (teacher), Jed Tuinstra, Beth Pealer, Mariacarla Chiarella, Chris McCracken, Melissa Frick, Lori Kool, Stacie Bloodsworth, Celina Johnson.

Webster



WEBSTER AFTERNOON KINDERGARTEN (1979-1980) — FRONT ROW: Chad Oppenhuizen, Khai Bui, Chinh Dao, Tabitha Helm, Justin Stursma, Jason Hal, Sara Andre, Cristy Spoelstra. MIDDLE ROW: Donelle Houser, Brian Pierce, Mia Van Dusseldorp, Suzanne McGuire, Stacy Nunnikhoven, Heidi Johnson, Brian Trow, Susie Den Hartog, Heather McDonald. BACK ROW: Todd Fieseler, Mike Valster, Duke Reynolds, Pamela Snyder, Amy Vander Werf, Becky Reynolds, Dominic Black. Martha Paul is the teacher. Manikhone Lovang was absent the day the picture was taken.



WEBSTER, AFTERNOON KINDERGARTEN — FRONT ROW: Jason Booth, Joe Willemsen, Erik Van Walbeek, Trent Crawmer, Chris Olivier, David Haskell, Corey Steenhoek, Sandy Roose. MIDDLE ROW: Ly Thao, John Vogelaar, Curtis Vander Linden, Susann Roose, Tammy Whitten, David Roorda, Eric Vos, Steve Feaster. BACK ROW: Martha Paul (teacher), Troy Angove, Kory Van Hulzen, Darin Williamsen, Kristi Klein, Kristi Veenstra, Tony Bokhoven, Chris McGee.

Webster



WEBSTER, FIRST — FRONT ROW: Sharla Terlouw, Heidi Reinertson, Michelle Blommers, Mike Den Hartog, Jason Roorda, Kenneth Medley, Kevin Van Weelden. MIDDLE ROW: Tru Thao, Korey Huerter, Heather Heiting, Guy Dittmar, Jeff Jansen, Tricia Van Wyk, Chad Derringer, Heather Hudson. BACK ROW: Wilma Blom (teacher), Jesse Dennis, Shannan Rietveld, Dennis Pokorney, Carla Loynachan, Aaron Huisman, Lisa Van Zee, Brett Carpentier.



WEBSTER, FIRST — FRONT ROW: Jason Brown, Chad Whitten, Diane McGuire, Tricia Vander Waal, Kellie Roose, Sara Den Adel, Le Bui. MIDDLE ROW: Chris Steenhoek, Denise Van Houweling, Christopher Booy, Leah Duven, Kim Johnson, Duane Carpentier, Allan Klein, Jonathan Stevens. BACK ROW: Muriel Humphrey (teacher), Laura Nesbit, Mike Aalbers, Sylvia Stoops, Scott Van Essen, Jenny Miller, Brian Schroeder, Hung Pham.

Webster



WEBSTER, SECOND — FRONT ROW: Danny Stevenson, Drew Kamrath, Keith Vander Meiden, Crystal Parsons, Patty Battistello, Dawn Rankin, Travis Crawmer, Leslie McCracken, Dennis Whitten. MIDDLE ROW: Shayla Andersen, Stanton Van Wyk, Tracy Terpstra, George Blom, Martha De Vries, Kristine Schultz, Chad Van Hemert, Brian Fassler. BACK ROW: Anna Mae Gosselink (teacher), Peggy Clink, Sherry Tuinstra, Stacy Dittmar, Tammy Vos, Stacie Goodnight, Mary Stoops, Tawnee Smith, Chad Wichhart.



WEBSTER, SECOND — FRONT ROW: Joshua Shetterly, Jody Schippers, Penny Teachout, Steve Schakel, Amy Bloodsworth, Paul Anderson, Jill Bethards, Michelle De Reus, Kim Veenstra. MIDDLE ROW: Ricky Van Rheenen, Ricky Kelderman, Ngoi Van Pham, Tim Bosch, Marnie Atteberry, Teresa Kendell, Alison Uitermarkt, Rachael Stuart, Kimberly Schultz. BACK ROW: Loretta Hyde (teacher), Dannie Rozenboom, Jim Miedema, Jarrod Harms, Annissia Helm, Stephanie Kempf, Jeff Steenhoek, Kelly Randol, Darla Speight.

Webster



WEBSTER, THIRD — FRONT ROW: David Foster, Jeff Johnson, Steve Heerema, Greg Roose, Tammy Newman, Jean Rodgers, Tresa Summers, Cara Dean. MIDDLE ROW: Judy Roose, Joel Seekamp, Ben Teachout, Jason Van Wyk, Kathy Petersma, Leanne Vande Weide, Jesse Duinink, Trina Brackin, Ricky Whitaker. BACK ROW: Sue Peake (teacher), Kara Klein, Gus Georgostathis, Bobby Ryun, Elizabeth Smiley, Marcia Van Nimwegan, Sheryl Klein, Mike Steenhoek.

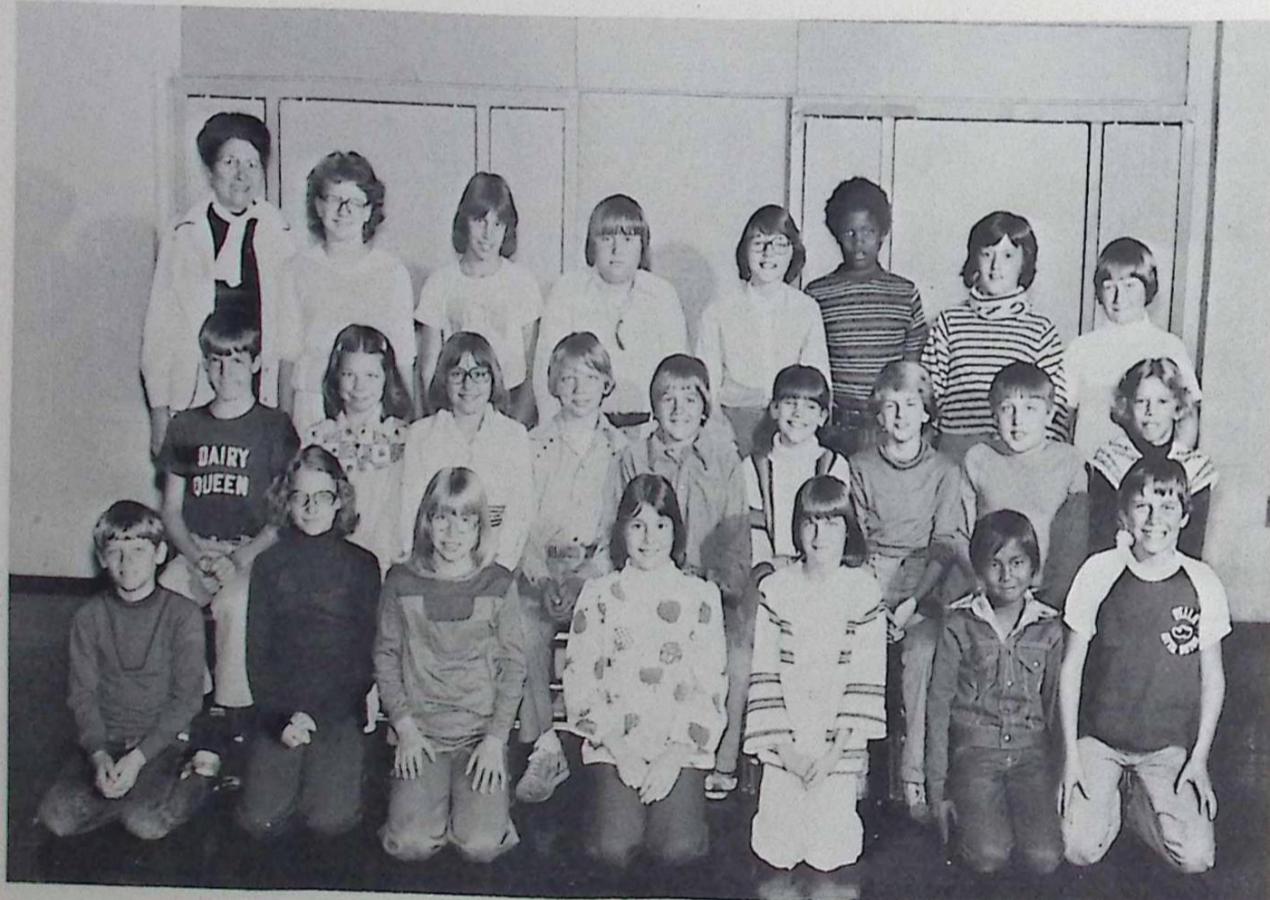


WEBSTER, THIRD — FRONT ROW: Amy Steadham, Brenda Blom, Trang Bui, Jason Vander Werff, Ricky Eliason, Mark Verwers, Mike Marshall, Curtis Vander Hart. MIDDLE ROW: Stacie Whitten, Cindy Hoekstra, Stacy Pierce, Duane Olivier, Samantha Frick, Natasha Ogren, Jana Van Steenis. BACK ROW: Alice Jansma (learning disabilities), Jim Hardin (teacher), Randy Roose, Tom Bruce, Alanda Naaktgeboren, Dorina Miller, Shawn Bennett, Nathan Huisman, Erin Glendening.

Webster

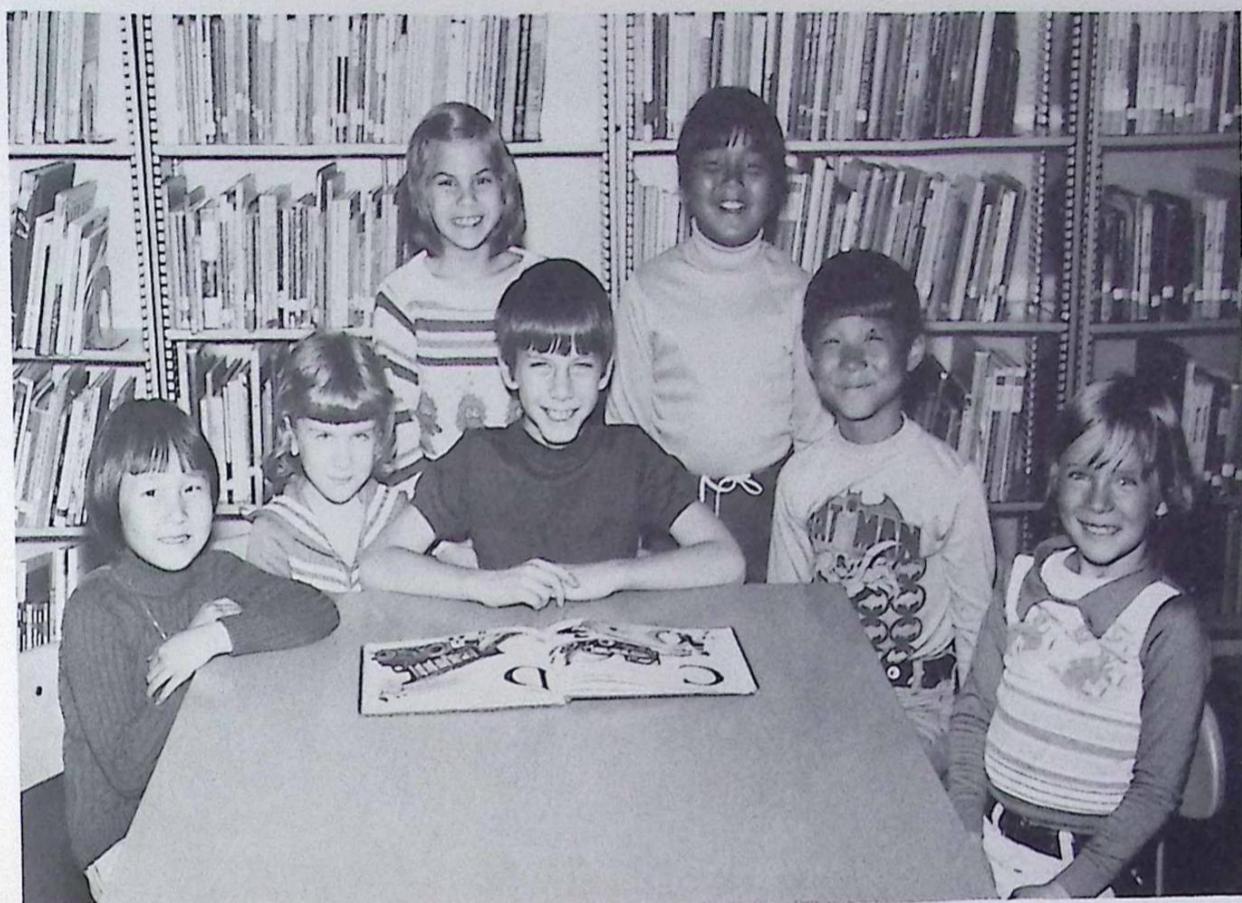


WEBSTER, FOURTH — FRONT ROW: Mark Klyn, Malinda Witter, Huyen Bui, Kim Angove, Susan Breuklander, Mickey Mitchell, Amy Uitermarkt, Lori Mattson, Lisa Fassler. MIDDLE ROW: Brant Budding, Tamara Van Hemert, Jerry Jansma, Trent Selthun, Debbie Branderhorst, Brent Schroder, Michael McGuire, Dean Kamrath, David Herzog. BACK ROW: Muriel Kooi (teacher), Marc Vande Noord, Chao Thao, Kathy Aldridge, Brad Trow, Elizabeth Freuh, Bryan Brees, Marion Rogers, Lori Hale.



WEBSTER, FOURTH — FRONT ROW: Kevin Den Adel, Christa Whitten, Amber MacDonald, Kristin Buwilda, Joleen McArtor, Manh Pham, Mark Fischer. MIDDLE ROW: Donald Pokorney, Brenda De Reus, Kelly Huerter, Ryan Van Zante, Jim Banfield, Justine Tierney, Lesa Roorda, Randy Williams, Debra Nunnikhoven. BACK ROW: Glenneva Peebler (teacher), Kimberly Brockway, Dayna Steenhoek, Brent Goemaat, Jill Van Zee, Nathan Moen, Leslie Goodnight, Brian Van Steenis.

Webster



WEBSTER SCHOOL pupils absent on picture days were — FRONT ROW: Deanna Williams, Carrie Bankes, Bobby Schuring, Jimmy Huffman, Randy Clarke. BACK ROW: Heather Schuring, Kim Huffman.



KINDERGARTNERS AT WEBSTER, OTLEY, LEIGHTON, 1979-1980 — FRONT ROW: Tammy Whitten, Casey Poole, Jason Schippers, Teresa Miller, Gail Kamrath, Chris De Ronde, Justin Smith, Alice Butler, Sheila Ter Louw. ROW 2: Chad Rietveld, Karen Eggerling, Jason McArtor, Chad Randol, Tony Lehman, Melissa Kuhn, Deanne Cottington, Matt Vande Noord, Erin Van Weelden, Chris Wycoff, Jason Booy. ROW 3: Donelle Adams, Sara Bruce, Scott Bethards, Ryan Hoar, Brad Schroder, Andy Beller, Chad Uitermarkt, Stephanie Gray, Teresa Vogelaar. BACK ROW (Children are standing on chairs): Judy Van Dusseldorp (teacher at Otley), Rebecca Poortinga, Amy Van Vark, Israel Thompson, Brent De Geus, Martha Paul (teacher at Webster), Michelle Uitermarkt, Heather Klay, Dan Jennings, Marlene Hugen (teacher at Leighton).



SPECIAL ASSIGNMENTS are fulfilled by these teachers, Karen Te Ronde, school nurse; Ruth Squibb and Vivian Whitney, remedial reading at Webster School; and Roberta Goemaat, physical education in the elementary schools.

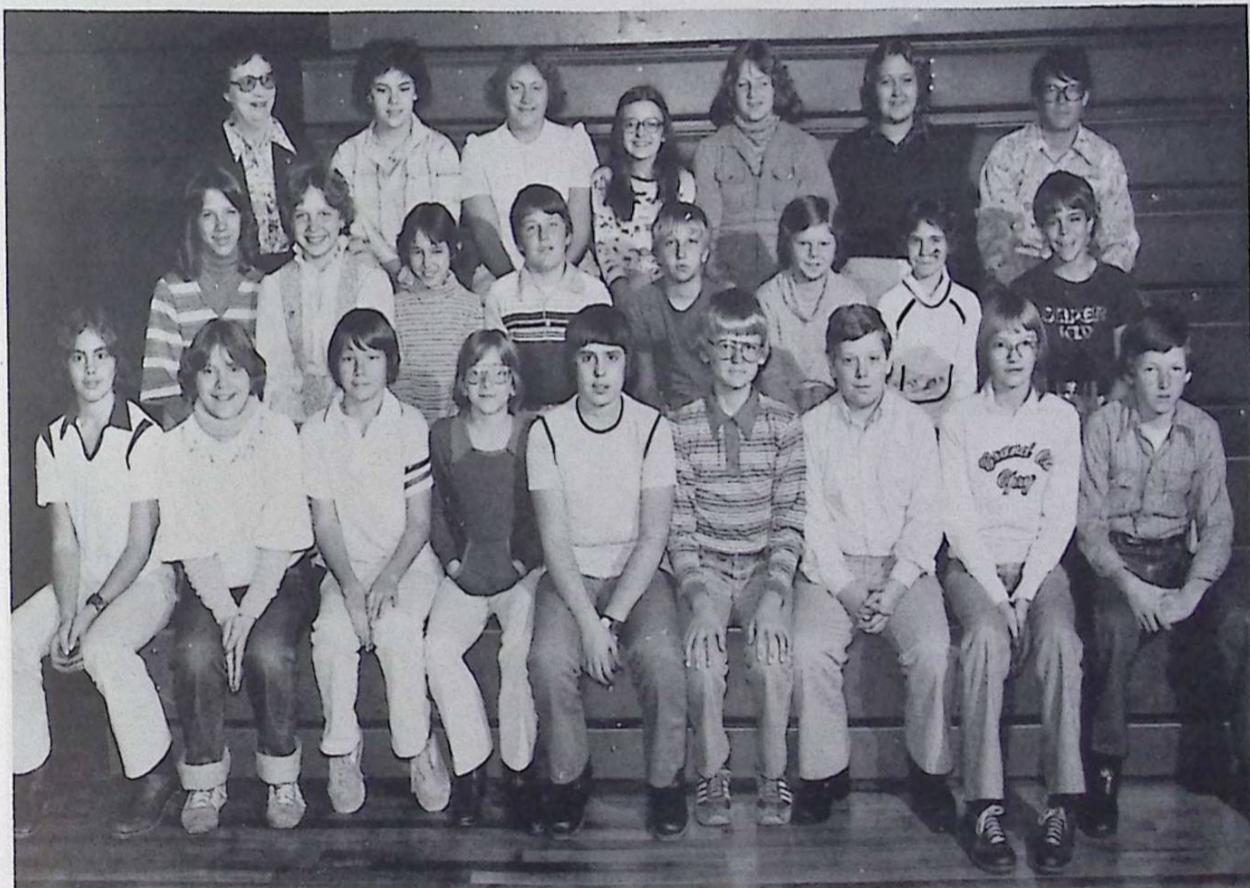


IN THE LIBRARY AT LINCOLN SCHOOL are (seated) Karen Beek, special education, and Etta Vermeer, librarian and secretary; (standing) Marcie Bremer and Polly Heerema, remedial reading, and Jon Heddons, art supervisor for the elementary schools.

Middle



MIDDLE SCHOOL, SIXTH — FRONT ROW: Mark Horman, Andrea Tuinstra, Lori Terlouw, Jodi Van Vliet, Nathan Busker, Chad Van Weelden, Conrad Van Walbeek, David Mitchell, LuAnne Fenton. MIDDLE ROW: Terri Davis, Lisa Warner, Leah Ostrander, Debra Dobernecker, Crystal MacDonald, Kara Glendening, Sandra Breuklander, Chris Baker. BACK ROW: Marjorie Vos (teacher), Kevin Moen, Bryce Kane, Scott Carroll, Marcy Verhey, Lisa Bokhoven, Eric Thomassen, Shaun Van Vark.



MIDDLE SCHOOL, SIXTH — FRONT ROW: Jim Burch, Stephanie Olson, Dan Vander Beek, Vincent Sanders, Daryl Beyer, Curtis Meyers, Arland Lamb, Diane Hartgers, Wayne Vos. MIDDLE ROW: Brenda Ver Meer, Jami Johnson, Lynne Sneller, Mark Vande Lune, Troy Matice, Marsha Smiley, Diane Trost, Ryan Vande Kamp. BACK ROW: Nellie Ter Louw (teacher), Vonnie Clark, Tammy Phillips, Melody Beaver, Loretta Van Vark, Tammy Kendall, David Van Ee.

Middle

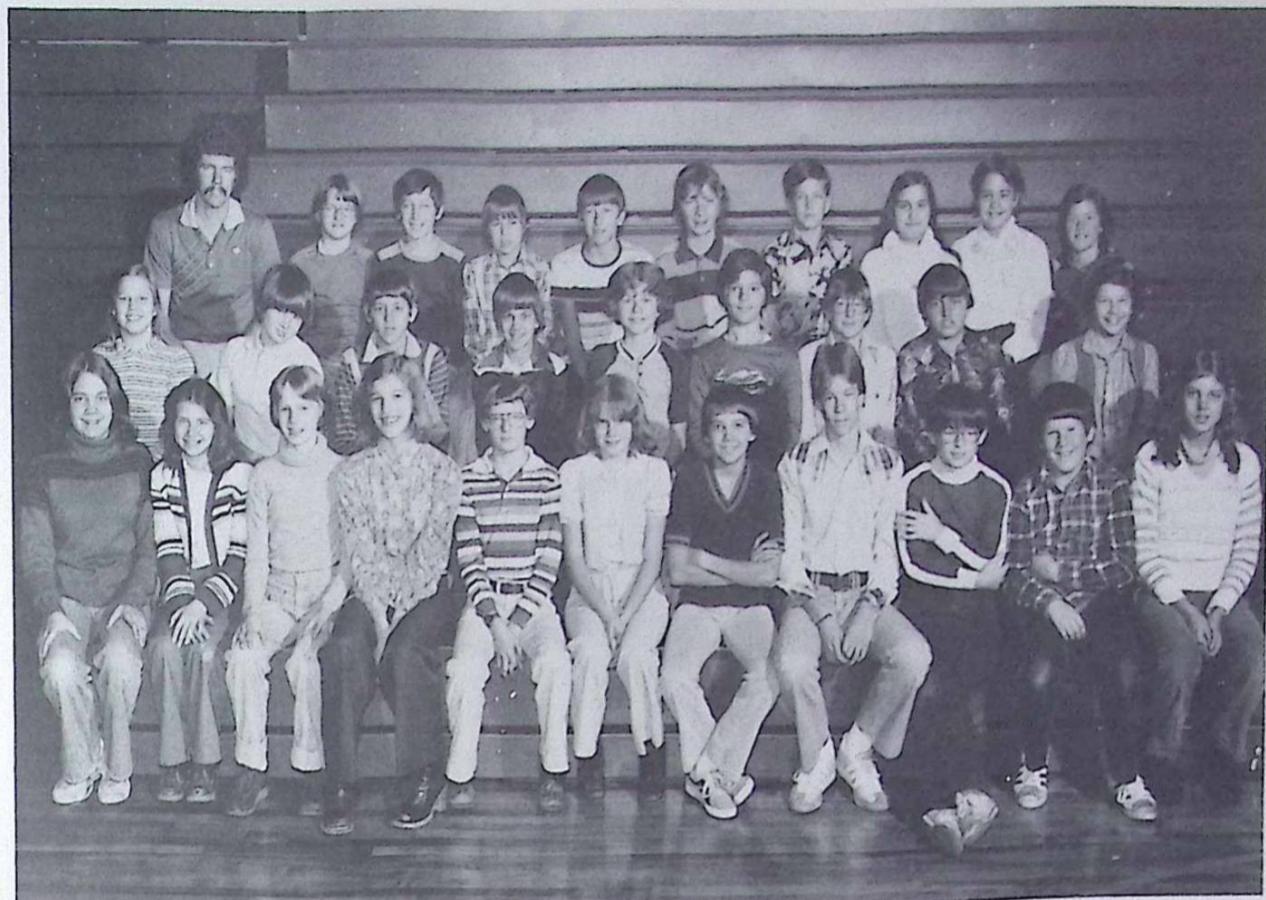


MIDDLE SCHOOL, SIXTH — FRONT ROW: Mike Kiser, Chris Strout, Jerry Davis, Robert Waddell, Rachel Hugen, Stephanie Te Ronde, Lisa Fox, Sheryl Newman. MIDDLE ROW: Jodi Kaldenberg, Carol Blommers, Lisa Koke, Susan Van Vark, Nick Ross, Tim Van Roekel, Curtis Magnussen. BACK ROW: Dorothy Vander Leest (teacher), Debbie Gilbert, Lori De Joode, Brenda Van Vark, Rhonda Van Wyk, Brenda Rempe, John Blazer.



MIDDLE SCHOOL, SIXTH — FRONT ROW: Mike Klyn, Clint Duinink, Daryl De Kruyff, Kevin Spoelstra, Bill Herzog, Stacy Nossaman, Glenda Vander Waal, Jodi Breen. MIDDLE ROW: Jill Boehlje, Kim Terlouw, Wendy Van Wyk, Lisa Breuklander, Denise Watson, Jill Fox, Andrea Vander Ploeg, Keith Klein, Dan Vande Voort. BACK ROW: Karol Subbert (teacher), Doug Vander Weide, Martin Van Maanen, Gary Vos, Steve Smiley, Jerry De Bruin, James De Bruin.

Middle



MIDDLE SCHOOL, SIXTH — FRONT ROW: Julie Schanke, Lori Rieken, Lynn Verros, Suzie Bowzer, Kent Marshall, Diane Norquist, Joe Savery, Brian Steenhoek, Peter Shearer, Chris Sackett, Lisa De Cook. MIDDLE ROW: Amy Pierson, Steve Speight, Mark Den Adel, John Van Rheenen, Greg Rooda, Robbie Boardman, Andy Fischer, Chad Vander Wilt, Beth Bogaard. BACK ROW: Henry Jennings (teacher), Jamie Bowles, Bryan Miller, John Grandia, Blain De Heer, Steve Frazier, Pat Stoneking, Joann Georgostathis, Laura Banfield, Sandy Gosselink.



MIDDLE SCHOOL, SEVENTH — FRONT ROW: Kris Jaarsma, Laurie Koenigs, Kathy Nofsgger, Julie Kelley, Tracy Noel, Sarah Fischer, Melissa Kamerick, Lisa Witzenburg, Darla Pokorney. MIDDLE ROW: Rod Ogren, Carter Van Hemert, Debbie Hensyel, Laurel Mitchell, Jan Den Adel, Blane Bogaard, Kyle Subbert, Terry Brockway. BACK ROW: Janice Nuehring (teacher), Greg Reese, Mike Vander Hoek, Dana Leydens, Julie De Reus, Karen Vander Hart, Pam Rempe, Sara Meyer, Teri Petersma, Karla Harvey.

Middle

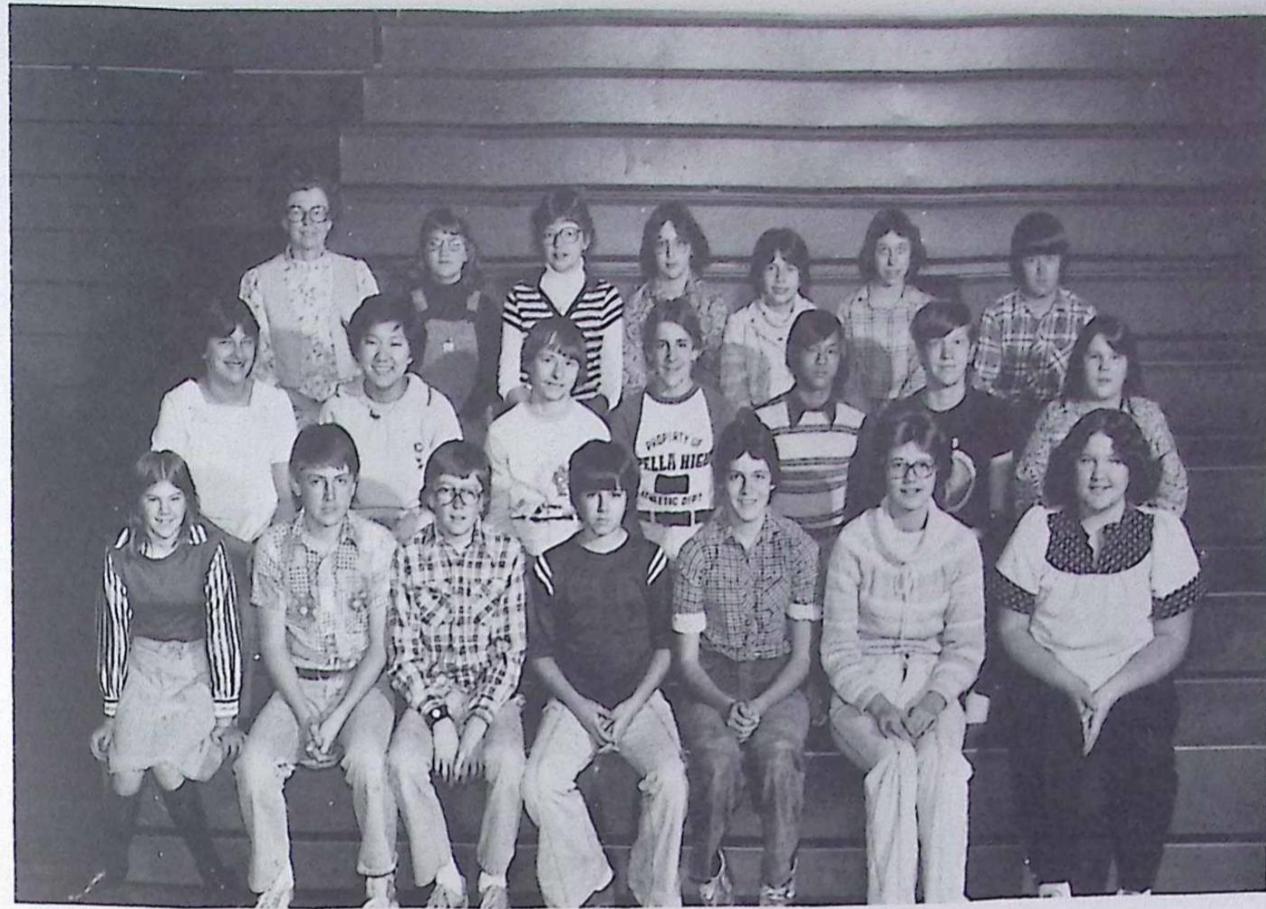


MIDDLE SCHOOL, SEVENTH — FRONT ROW: Tammy Beyer, Amy Ballenger, Tim Heerema, Ed Bogaard, Bobby Plate, David Van Horn, Dan Pfadenhauer, Leroy Wiegand, Kevin Newendorp. MIDDLE ROW: David De Geus, Boyd Mathes, Steve Nunnikhoven, Greg De Jong, Evonn Van Wyk, Dia De Haan, Mary De Vries, Kathy Vander Linden, Deanna Garbison. BACK ROW: Al Anderson (teacher), Melanie Valster, Sandy Vander Hart, Cheryl Jansen, Rosa Stoops, Steve Fenton, Kevin Nation.

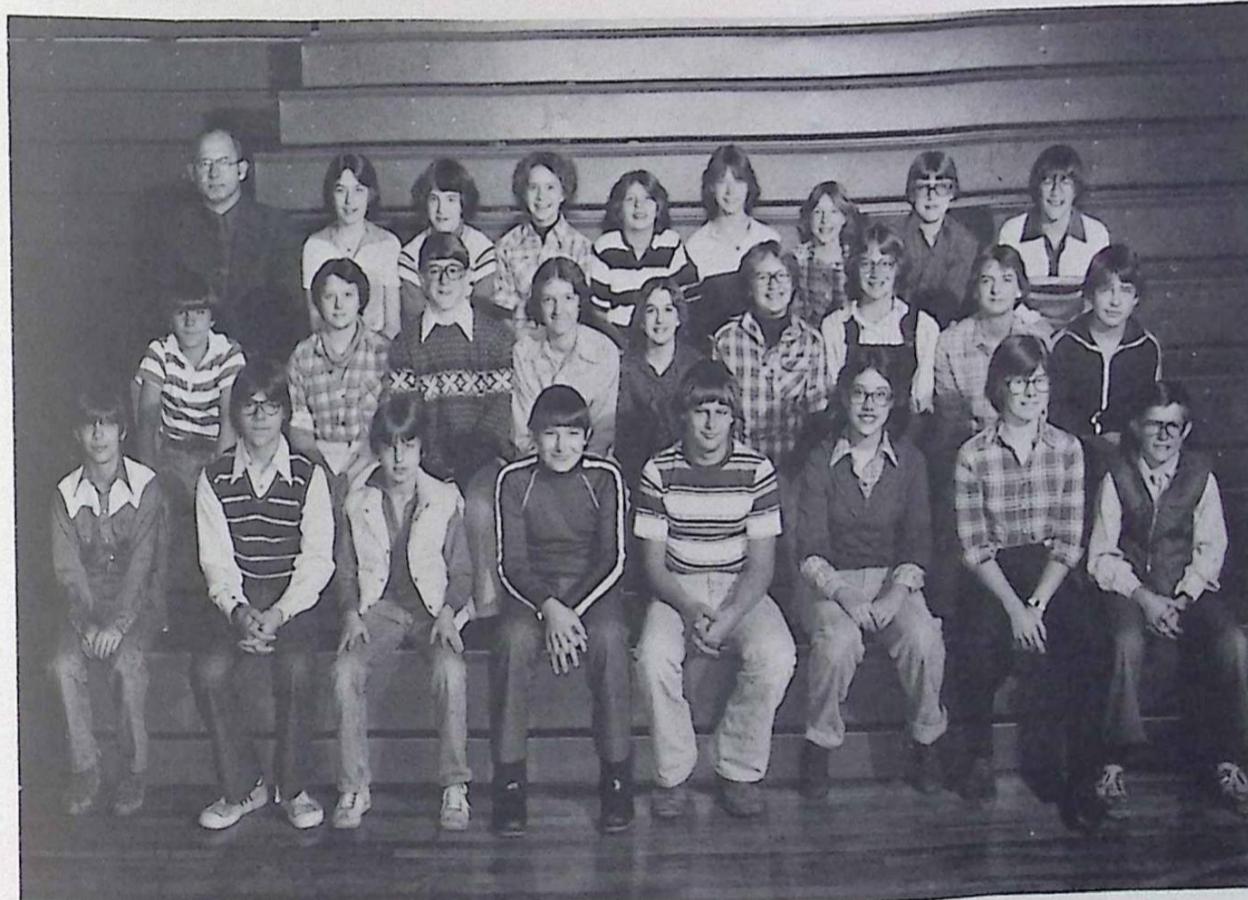


MIDDLE SCHOOL, SEVENTH — FRONT ROW: John Kroes, Darren Naaktgeboren, Mike Brouwer, Steve Gordy, Jeff Lindgren, Ed De Ruiter, Clint Conover. MIDDLE ROW: Teresa Van Hemert, Bonnie Visser, Kim Simmons, Glenda Bogaards, Becky Van Roekel, Millie De Wild, Toni Anthony, Tom Neil. BACK ROW: Barbara Willis (teacher), Keith Foster, Mike Veenstra, Miles Bruinekool, Brent Pierson, Shawn Vink, Randy Van Essen, Danny Wichhart, Kyle Van Zante.

Middle



MIDDLE SCHOOL, SEVENTH — FRONT ROW: Susan Smiley, David Williams, Mike Vande Noord, Stuart Van Weelden, Connie Van Wyk, Raylene Vander Hart, Brenda Miedema. MIDDLE ROW: Lisa Van Hulzen, Kim Houseal, Greg Witter, Steve Vande Kamp, Frankie Pham, John June, Linda Doty. BACK ROW: Martha Wilkins (teacher), Nila Spoelstra, Renee Veenstra, Julie Vander Linden, Ann Payne, Michele Horman, Dan Kamerick.



MIDDLE SCHOOL, SEVENTH — FRONT ROW: Henry Gott, Randy Dugger, Keith Slagter, Rusty Kool, Wayne Hoksbergen, Leslie Maxam, Barb Malcolm, Rick Ver Helst. MIDDLE ROW: Jeff Vroom, Nita Aldridge, Mike Leydens, Bev Vos, Donna Elscott, Kim Wichhart, Carol Van Rheenen, Carla Steenhoek, Terry Mitchell. BACK ROW: Ron Subbert (teacher), Jodi See, Keri Huisman, Brenda Hessing, Kris Kerger, Mindy Van Nimwegen, Brenda Mathes, Brian Van Haafoten, Dennis Van Houweling.

Middle



MIDDLE SCHOOL, EIGHTH — FRONT ROW: Ann De Boef, Tammy Sutphen, Becky Foster, Debbie Dykhuis, Diane Van Wyk, Terri Van Wyk, Karen Wiegand. MIDDLE ROW: Cindy Slagle, Julie Burch, Marlys Dop, Carrie Crawford, Christi Koopman, Joel Kooyman, Leslie Sadler. BACK ROW: Keith Emmert (teacher), Glen Breuklander, Duane De Kruyff, Brett Nossaman, Doug Heschke, Craig Elsloo, Eric Sackett.



MIDDLE SCHOOL, EIGHTH — FRONT ROW: Martha Anderson, Stephanie Selthun, Terri Lautenbach, Joyce Meulpolder, Mary Banfield, Shelley Warner, Teresa Willemsen, Cheryl Moen. MIDDLE ROW: Lisa Van Rheenen, Mindy Hoksbergen, Lori Kroes, Mary Glendening, Dan Schafer, Jeff Vander Voort, Randy Van Roekel. BACK ROW: Sara Caldwell (teacher), Brian Fox, Ben Van Maanen, Dirk Borgman, John Van Heukelom, Mike Dingeman, Rick Vander Horst.

Middle



MIDDLE SCHOOL, EIGHTH — FRONT ROW: Sherri Timmer, Kristi Vander Werff, Jana Dahlin, Natalie Lucas, Kara De Heer, Debbie See, Jana Buwalda. MIDDLE ROW: Brenda Hasler, Bruce Terpstra, Steve Rouw, Becky Foster, Angie Rieken, Leisha Rempe, Angie De Jong. BACK ROW: Dorothy Van Vark (teacher), Loren Van Vark, Rodney Dunsmoor, Jeff De Vries, Leon Frederick.



MIDDLE SCHOOL, EIGHTH — FRONT ROW: Sherry Parsons, Cindy Thompson, Lisa Verhey, Lisa Bledsoe, Jeff Van Zee, Rhonda Beyer, Debbie Madden. MIDDLE ROW: Grant Blom, David Nossaman, Greg Terpstra, David Watkins, Bryce Schuring, Mike Vermeer. BACK ROW: Ken Harter (teacher), Cathy Gordy, Kris De Jong, Don Slycord, John Hoekstra, Margaret Fischer.

Middle



MIDDLE SCHOOL, EIGHTH — FRONT ROW: Stella Bruinekool, Ronda Van Gorp, Sandy Dugger, Missy Chambers, Lori Vandenberg, Debbie Ryun, Doug De Joode, Curtis Kaisand. MIDDLE ROW: Jeff Miedema, Mike Hamre, Eric Martin, Norman Elscott, John Vroegh, Brian Van Vark, Craig Van Zante. BACK ROW: Frances Koehn (Middle School counselor), Joyce Schipper (tutor), Janie Hale (teacher), Rahel Ephrain, Sue Pham, Han Bui, Brenda Kane, Gloria Koopmans.

Freshmen (Class of 1982)

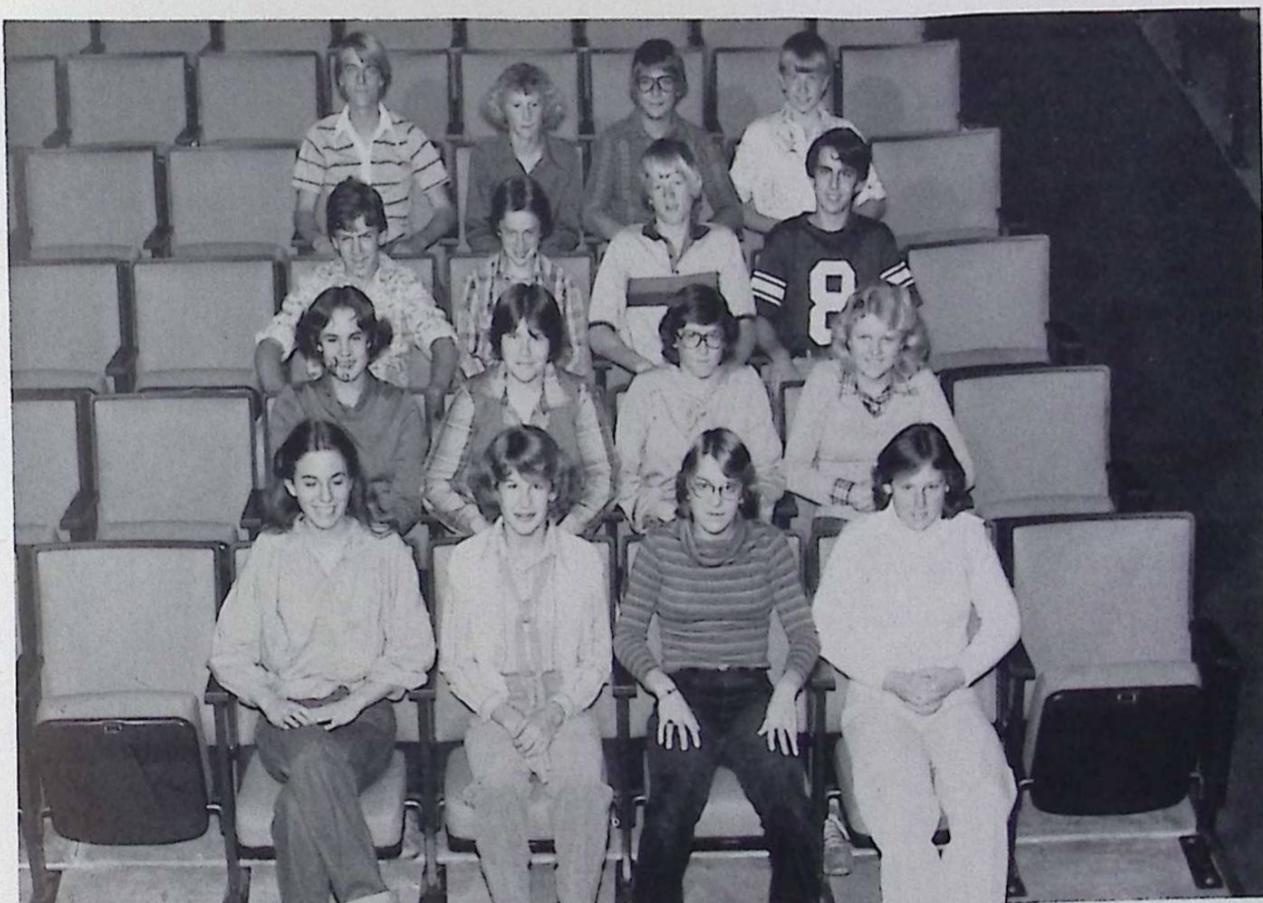


FRESHMEN — FRONT ROW: Bruce Rietveld, Julia Steenhoek, Jean Mayer, Lee Ann De Reus, Jill Klyn, Brenda Branderhorst, Mickey Hale. MIDDLE ROW: Colleen June, Nancy Toom, Carla Vander Werf, Lisa Vander Wert, Vicki Hiemstra, Sherri Upton, Bonnie Kirschman. BACK ROW: Russ Hiemstra, Tina Bevis, Jane Lamb, Larry Lautenbach, Eddie Klyn, David Greving, Choa Hur.

Freshmen (Class of 1982)

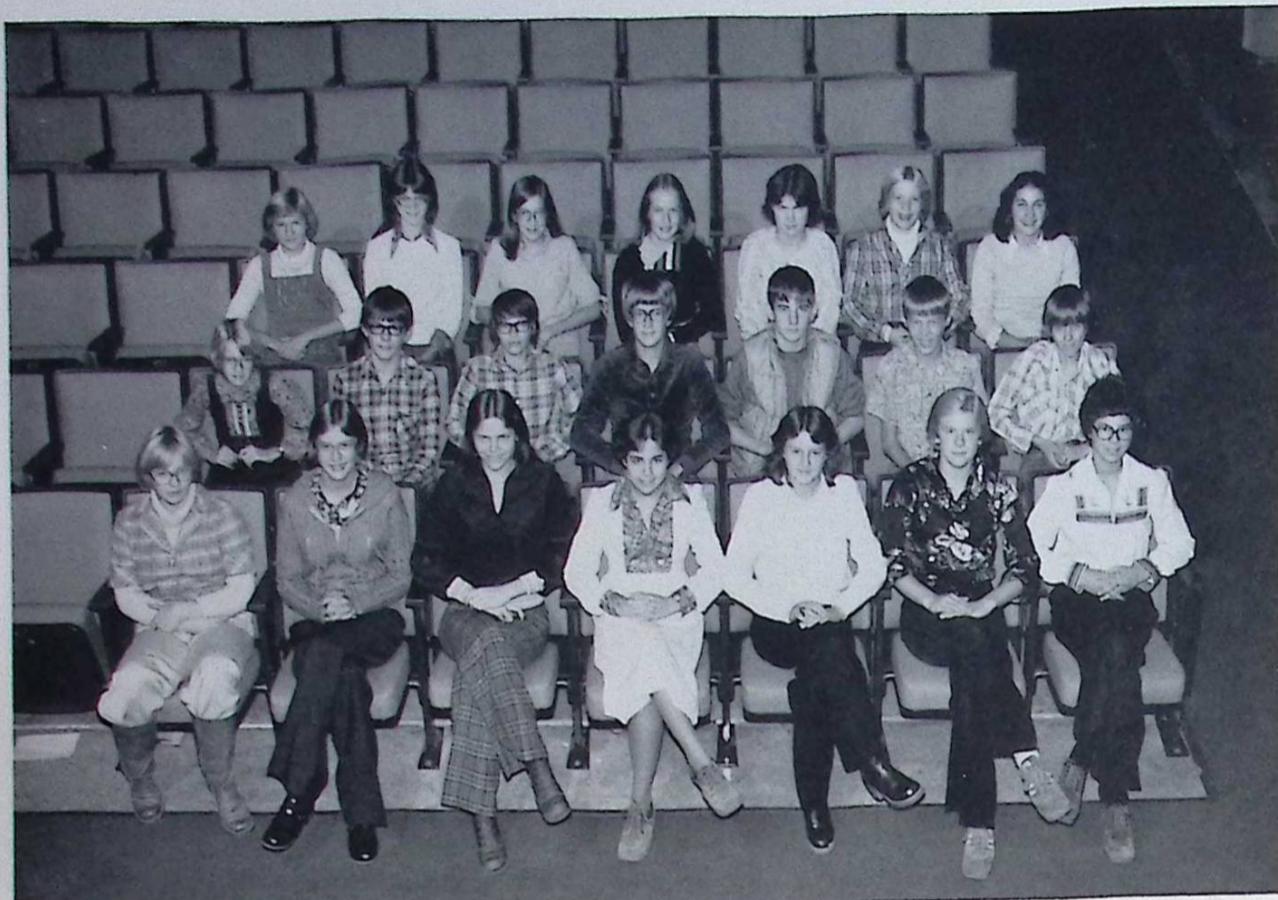


FRESHMEN — FRONT ROW: Lori Vander Leest, Jill Bremmer, Ann Ver Meer, Sanya Terlouw, Darla De Haan, Carol Tysseling, Carla De Ruiter. MIDDLE ROW: Sue Gosselink, Laura Regal, Nancy Thies, Carolyn Jaarsma, Jill Blom, Gina Sauer, Nancy Bowles. BACK ROW: Ken Hugen, Jeff Eeling, Jim Horman, Gene Doty, Larry Rook, Dwight Hessing, Harris Westerkamp.



FRESHMEN — FRONT ROW: Lisa Visser, Brenda Slagter, Cathy Wiegand, Melissa Van Nimwegen. ROW 2: Laurie Vander Voort, Lisa Wilson, Kathy Buyert, Laura Rooda. ROW 3: Thom Schipper, Steve Steddom, Marty Meyers, Peter Koehn. ROW 4: Ron Bosch, Rusty De Jong, Rich Nossaman, Kurt Ver Helst.

Freshmen (Class of 1982)

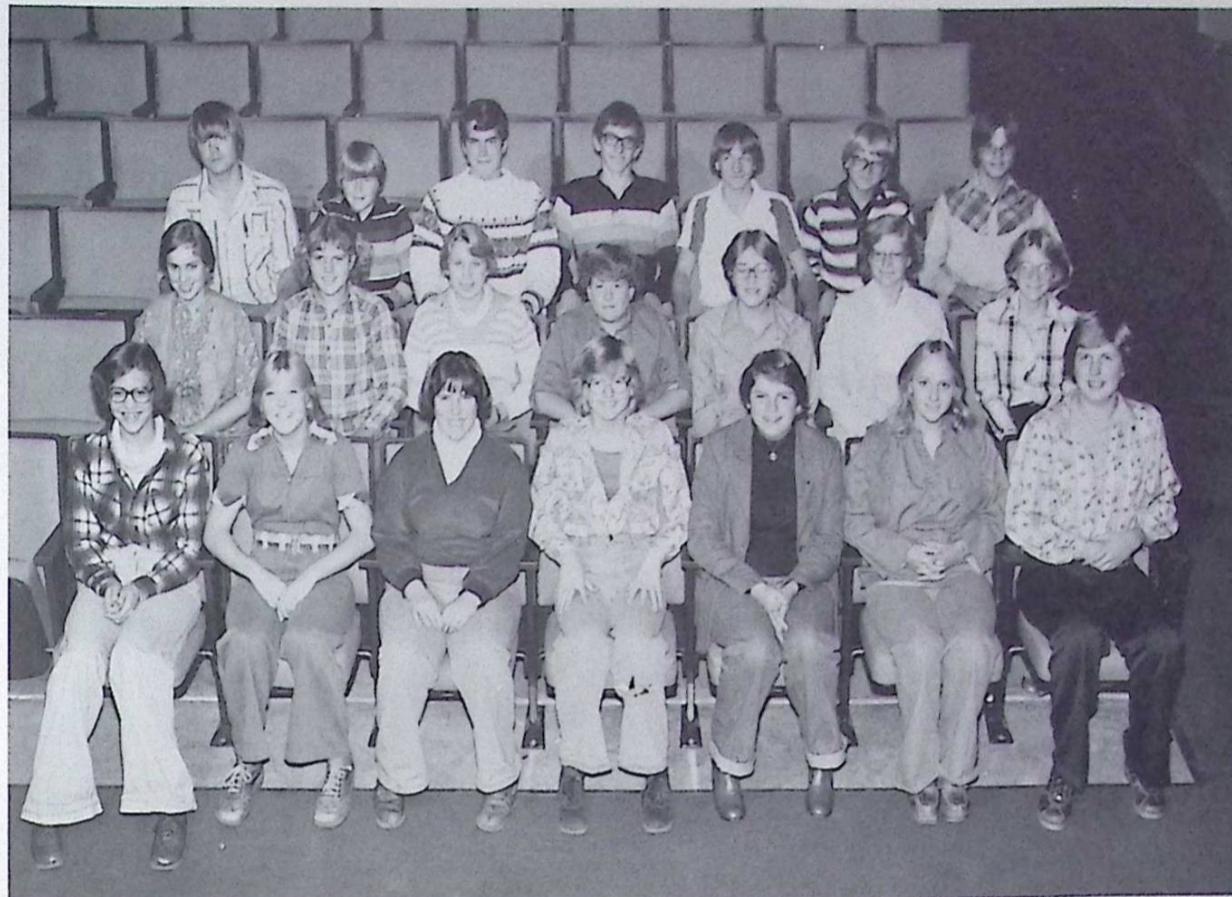


FRESHMEN — FRONT ROW: Cassie Thomassen, Karyl Roorda, Kristi Braafhart, Shari Mitchell, Kathy Benscoter, Jaci Schipper, Shelly Wells. MIDDLE ROW: Ann Vander Linden, Stuart Valster, Vince Nossaman, David De Geus, Mark De Vries, Craig Van Sant, Tim Brackin. BACK ROW: Brenda Bogaard, Linda Nossaman, Sheryl Vander Waal, Lisa Nation, Diane Van Haaften, Kerri Kolenbrander, Colette Graber.

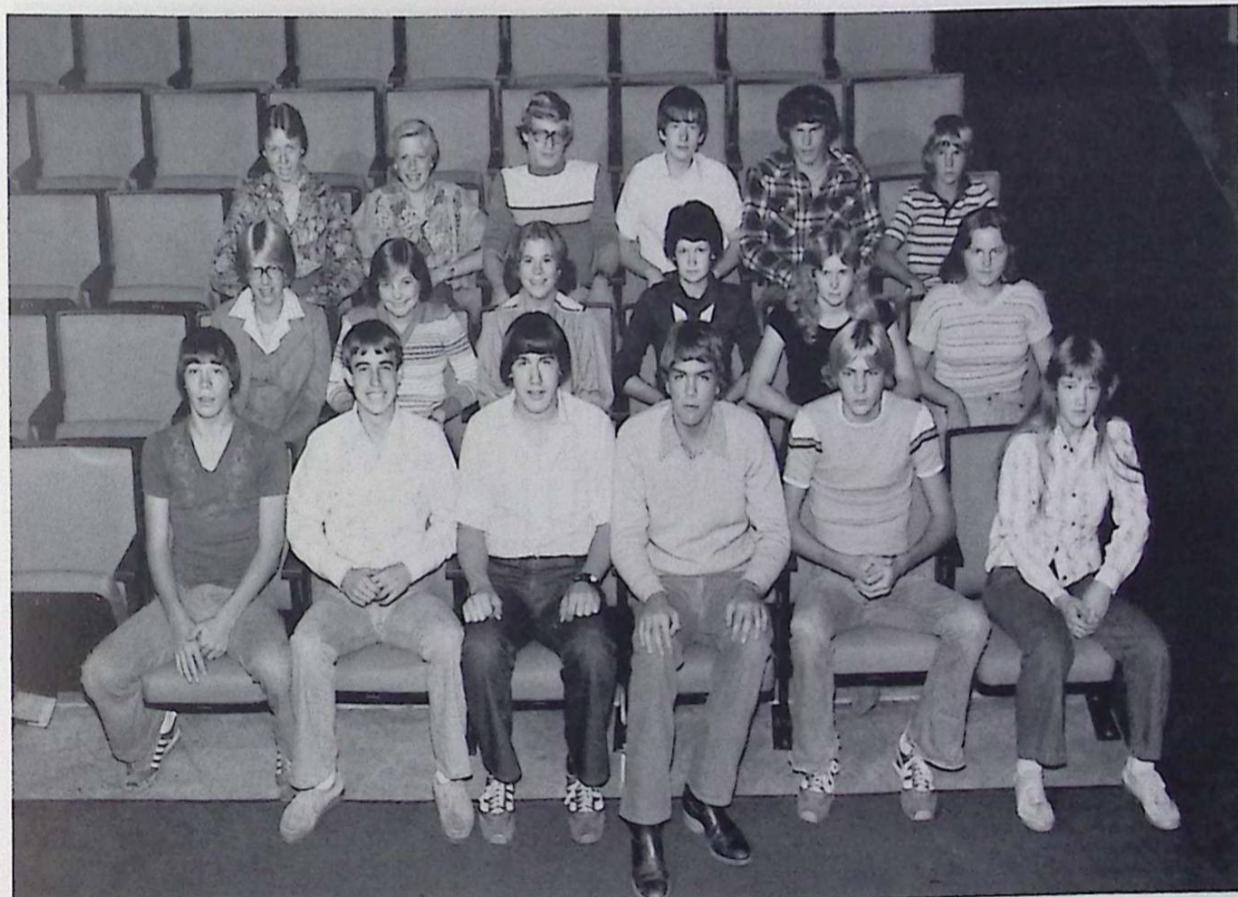


FRESHMEN — FRONT ROW: Bruce Rempe, Danny Schakel, Brian Williams, Cathy Pope, Laurie Shearer, Lori Kane, Susan Meyer. MIDDLE ROW: Bob Wessinger, Tim Terpstra, Terry Whitten, Everett Wilson, Russell Judge, Joe Milianta, Brian Stice. BACK ROW: Denise Sjaardema, Sarah Van Hoeven, Mark Van Gorp, Brad Rietveld, Stu Selthen, Nick Vos, Mark Rempe.

Freshmen (Class of 1982)



FRESHMEN — FRONT ROW: Arlene Van Mersbergen, Tammy Giles, Julie Hicklin, Marcena Nunnikhoven, Becky Cowles, Carrie Rozenboom, Beverly Keuning. MIDDLE ROW: Lynn Mattson, Susan Rietveld, Carol Slagter, Lori Butler, Robin Van Essen, Lori Nunnikhoven, Gina Vos. BACK ROW: Mike Van Steenwyk, Danny Mitchell, Joe Kroes, Matt Schulte, David Watson, Ricky Vander Linden, Steve Jensen.

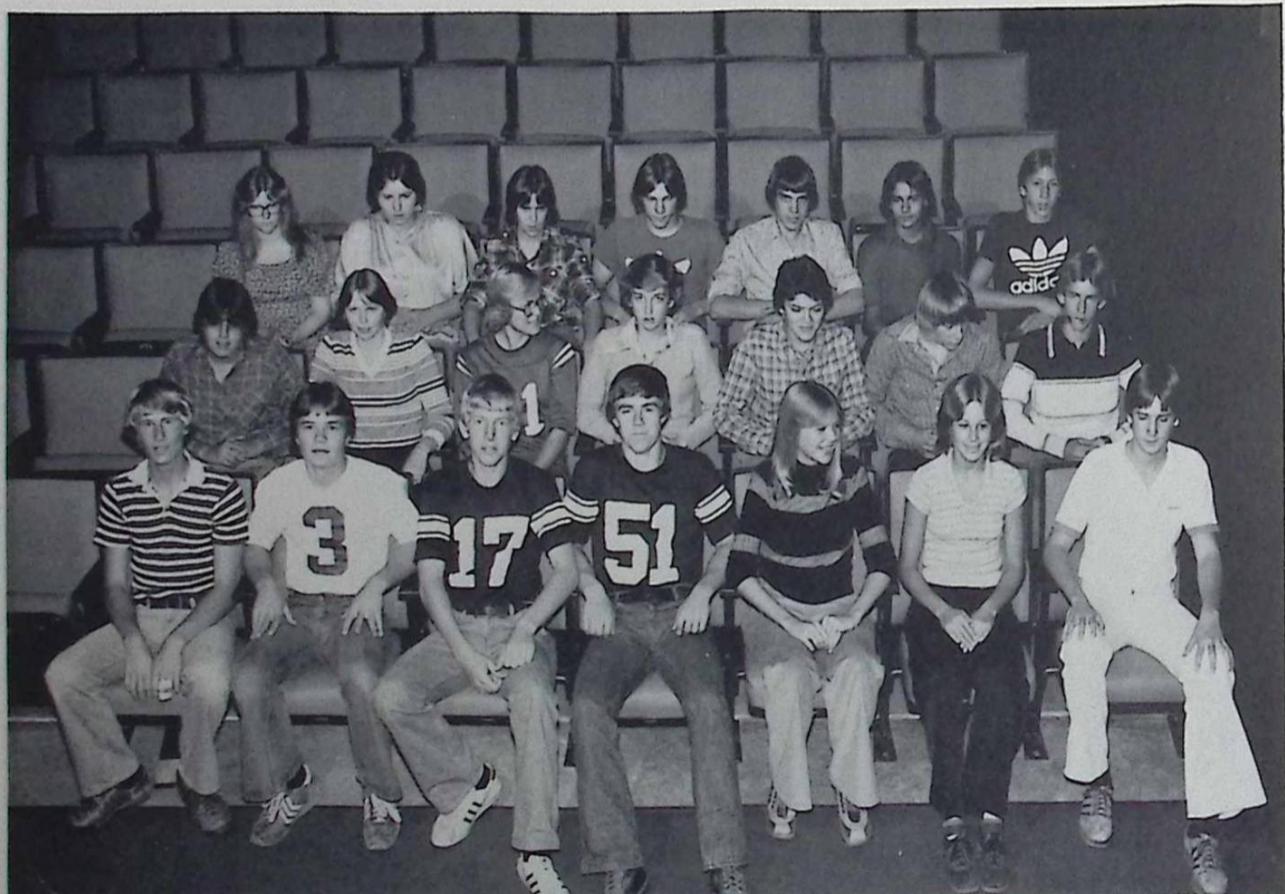


FRESHMEN — FRONT ROW: Mike Van Ee, Brad Blom, Scott Pothoven, Steve Onana, Fred Koke, Betty Hess. MIDDLE ROW: Brenda Bogaards, Debbie De Haan, Jana Van Kalker, Aleta Byers, Sharon Selth, Diane Young. BACK ROW: Melissa May, Dana Blom, Kraig Ecton, Lyle Van Hemert, Randy Steenhoek, Russ Van Maanen.

Sophomores (Class of 1981)



SOPHOMORES (Class of 1981), FRONT ROW: Steve Dobernecker, Jeannie Ryun, Ester Lopez, Jamie Jones, Margie Van Nimwegen, Charon Renaud, Janet Janssen. MIDDLE ROW: Samantha Powers, Beth Veenstra, Charon Kane, Sharon Van Halen, Julie Lent, Jessica Brom, Sherri Vos. BACK ROW: Tim Waits, Bob Wandling, Jan Van Donselaar, Carol Thomassen, Tim Brockway, Russ Bandstra, Gary Mattson.

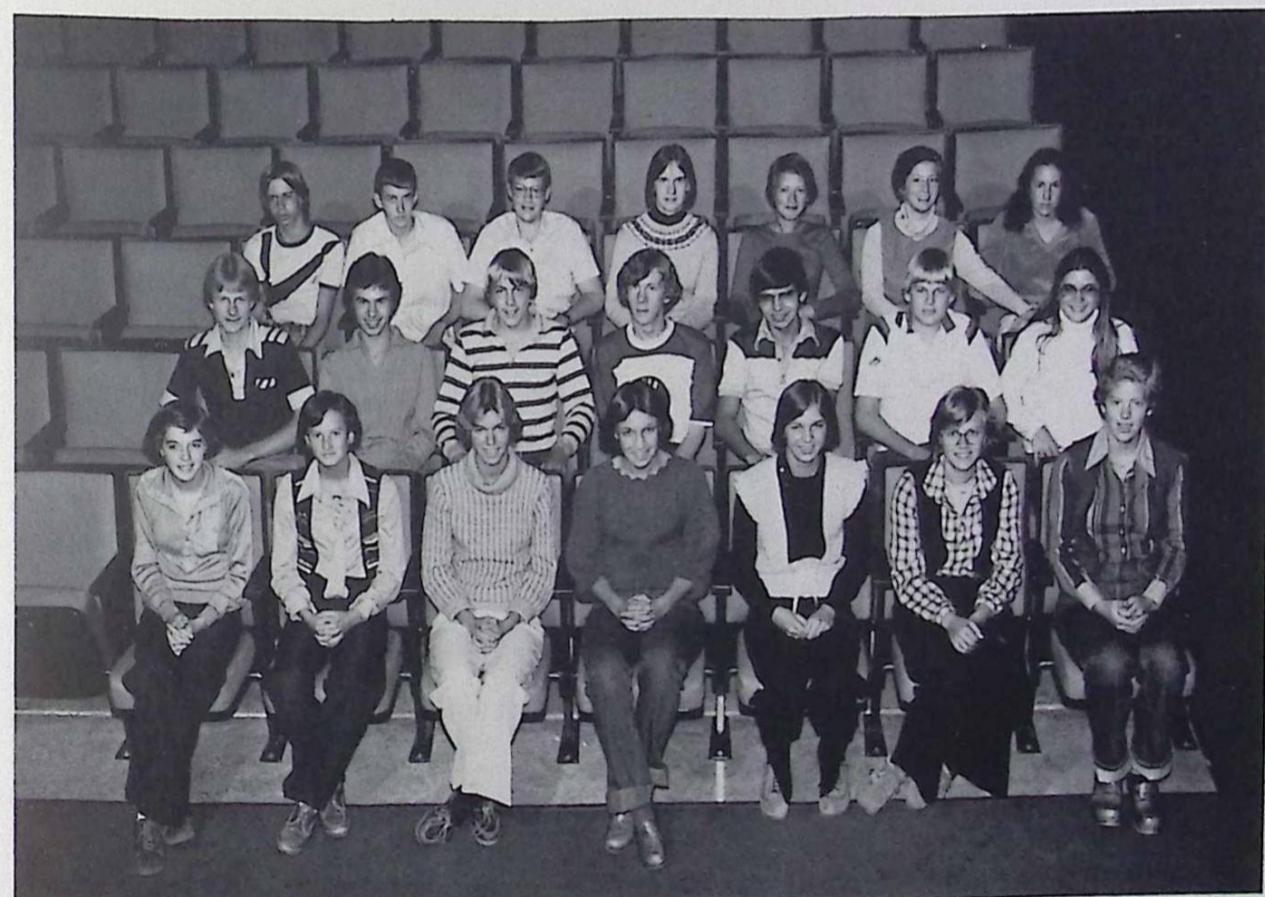


SOPHOMORES, FRONT ROW: Mike Bogaard, John Magnussen, Todd Sutphen, Paul Buwalda, Jolene De Joode, Kathleen Lucas, Scott Savery. MIDDLE ROW: Kelli Eeling, Janet Holland, Stephanie Ostrander, Sherri Elsloo, Julie Wichhart, Jeff Wichhart, Dean Dingeman. BACK ROW: Charlotte Liming, Janis Silvers, Karla Van Dusseldorp, Earl Hamre, Ervin Van Wyk, Dan Lautenbach, Joel Ryken.

Sophomores (Class of 1981)



SOPHOMORES, FRONT ROW: Jeff Beyers, Randy Toom, Marty Van Vliet, Greg Vines, Graeme Pierson, Kent Verros, Doug Vriezelaar. MIDDLE ROW: Jeff Parsons, Duane Wyma, David De Haan, Steffanie Vander Wilt, Judy Spoelstra, Kelly Downing, Bill Blom. BACK ROW: Bruce Brammer, John Steddom, Deb Benshoof, Vicky Miedema, Sherry Whitten, Kelvin Bokhoven, Nathan Sheaffer.

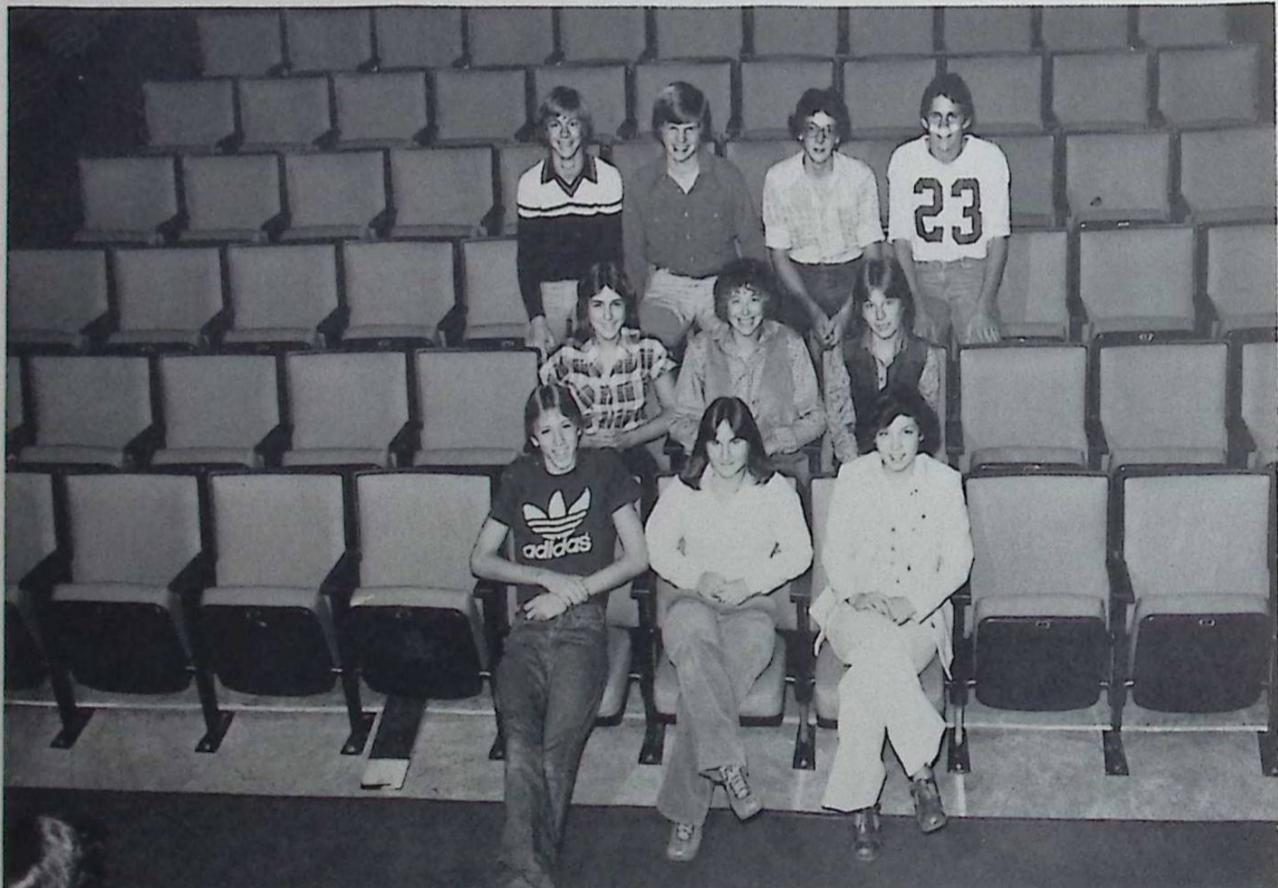


SOPHOMORES, FRONT ROW: Mary Gowdy, Lori Fox, Sherrie De Jong, Ann Schakel, Rhonda Hiemstra, Wendy Van Roekel, Mary Van Zee. MIDDLE ROW: Phil Iverson, Marty Wells, Ed Banfield, Jeff Gordy, Larry Bennett, Jeff Jansma, Karla Fischer. BACK ROW: Jim Ellason, Eric Glendening, Eric Frueh, Laura Tysseling, Jana De Jong, Stefanie Vruwink, Dianne Millanta.

Sophomores (Class of 1981)

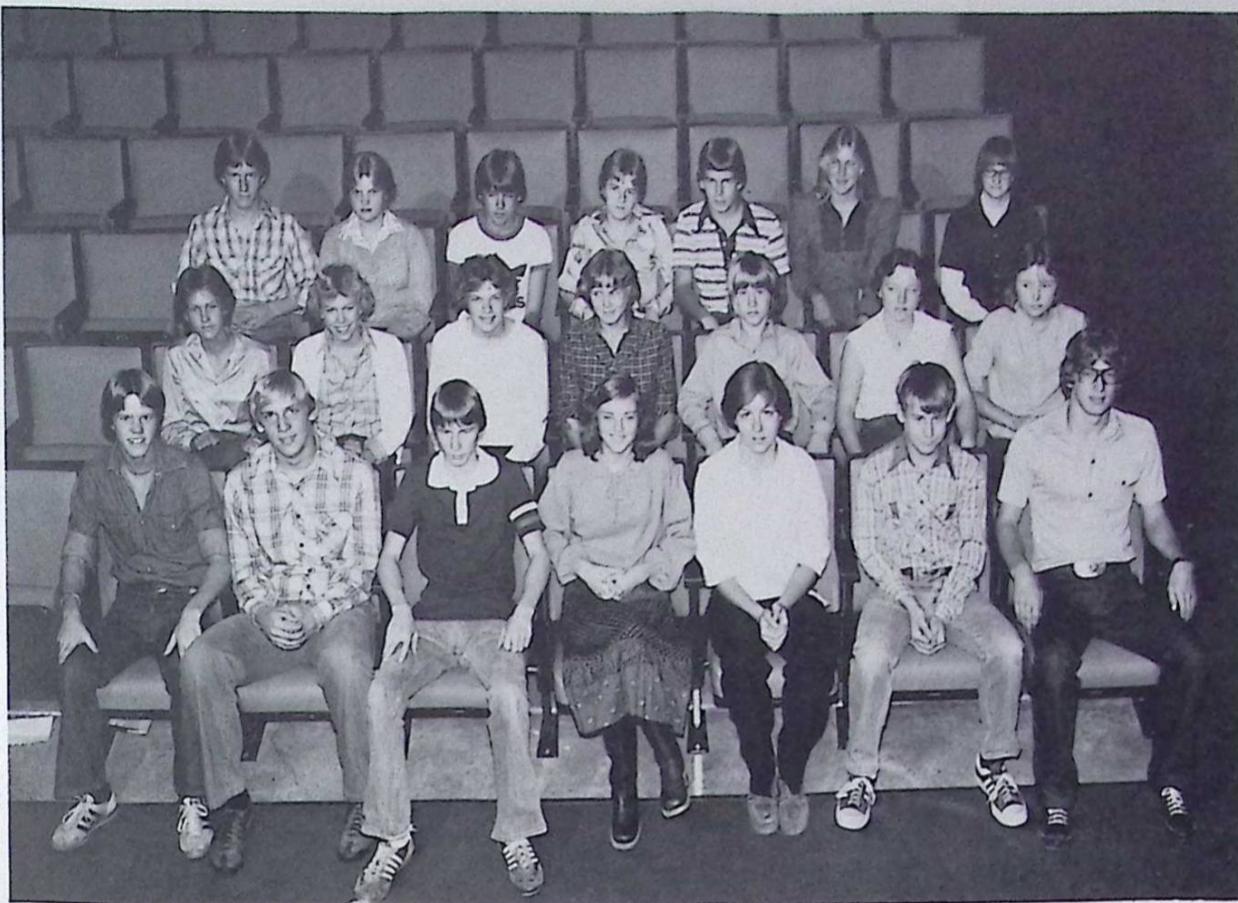


SOPHOMORES, FRONT ROW: Derek Fox, Mike Van Gorp, Mark Rempe, Kurtis Koehn, Tim Booy, Sam Van Maanen, Dave Van Houweling. MIDDLE ROW: Delores Seekamp, Malissa Mathes, Connie Madden, Jan Dingeman, Lori Gordin, Tracy Andrews, Julie Groenendyk. BACK ROW: Darryl Norquist, Dirk Rietveld, Andy Power, Alan Rouw, Brad Vande Lune, Jeff Van Wyk, Stuart De Haan.



SOPHOMORES, FRONT ROW: Joel Ryken, Ann Esbeck, Dorilee Meyer. MIDDLE ROW: Lori Vroom, Lori Olson, Lori Steenhoek. BACK ROW: Scott Reese, Harvey Beyer, Darrell Boot, Craig Rooda.

Sophomores (Class of 1981)



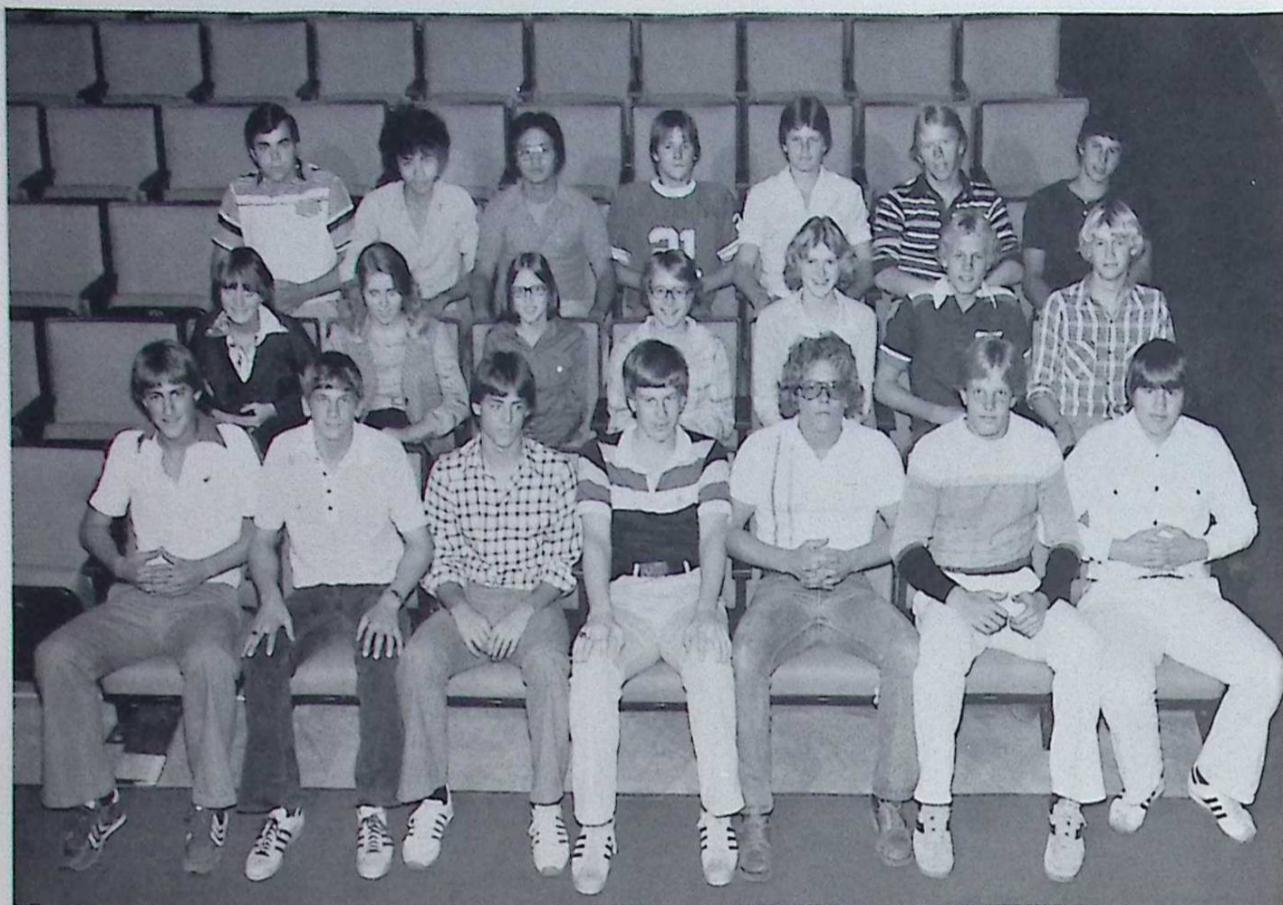
SOPHOMORES, FRONT ROW: Mark Bak, Jon Evers, Duane Van Heukelom, Carla Kelley, Lisa Klein, Scott Hicklin, Darrel Rooda. MIDDLE ROW: Julie Koopman, Nancy Van Hoeven, Val Newendorp, Shelly Ver Meer, Brian Loynachan, Chris Fisk, Kathy Long. BACK ROW: Mark Vander Leest, Pam Noftsger, Kelly Van Weelden, Jeff Strout, Steve Verros, Cheryl De Cook, Norma Elscott.

Juniors (Class of 1980)

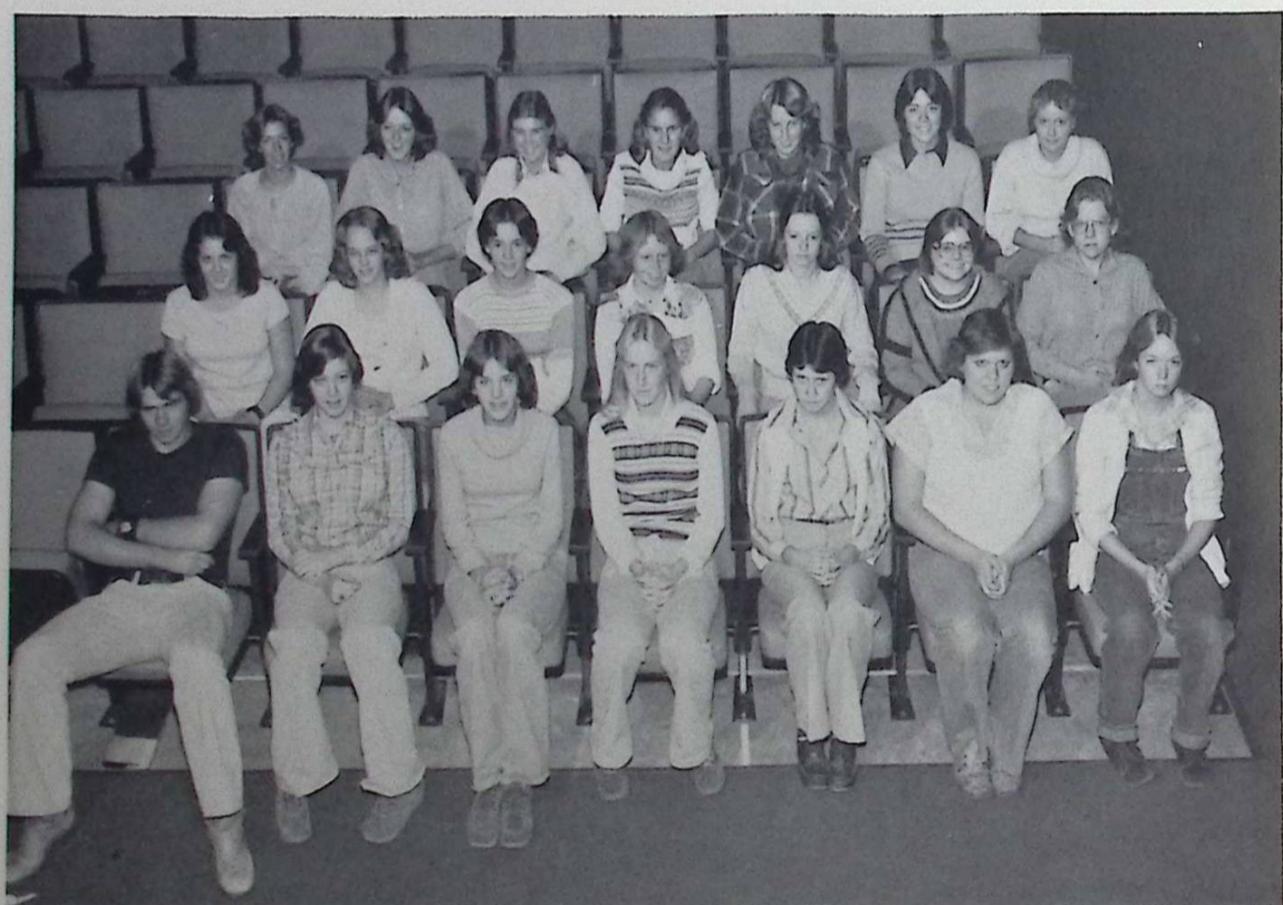


JUNIORS — FRONT ROW: Scott Visser, Doug Veldhuizen, Keith Van Maanen, Renee De Boef, Sue Vander Werff, Marge Duncan, Bruce Pfadenhauer. MIDDLE ROW: Vicki Jones, Darcy Verros, Cathy Van Den Berg, Steve Mayer, Jim Heschke, Ron Schuring, Steve Hiemstra. BACK ROW: Kyl Timmer, Rich Bandstra, Bruce Terlouw, Dan Hunsinger, Mike Vander Wert, Neal Van Wyk, John Hill.

Juniors (Class of 1980)



JUNIORS — FRONT ROW: Jay Van Roekel, Jack Pope, Jeff Dingeman, Bob Andeweg, Jim Fisk, Craig Wassenaar, Brian Roose. MIDDLE ROW: Lori Chambers, Sherry Rooda, Peggy Petersma, Dianna Mitchell, Tricia Klein, Lyle Van Wyk, Tim Meyer. BACK ROW: Alex Van Wyk, Guip Pham, Ed Lopez, Jeff Riggen, Jamie Brillhart, Kevin Vermeer, Brad Van Dusseldorp.

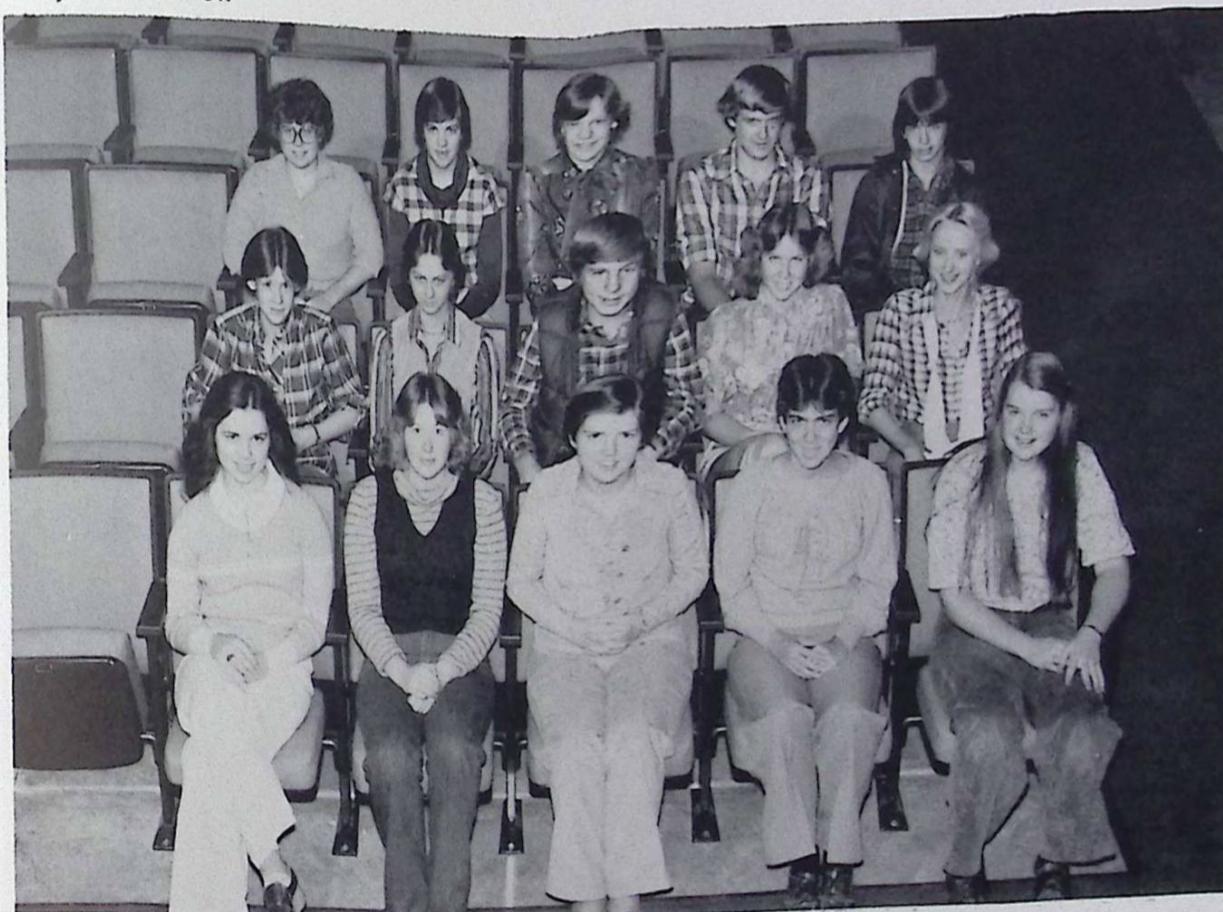


JUNIORS — FRONT ROW: Dan Visser, Lori Whitaker, Linda Miller, Dawn De Haan, Madona Van Zee, Sandy Van Wyk, Laura Hoksbergen. MIDDLE ROW: Brenda Taylor, Cindy Waits, Kathy Hormann, Sheri Matic, Tami Petersma, Mari Jo Riddle, Linda Neil. BACK ROW: Lynne Van Vark, Lori Petersma, Tami Malcolm, Pati Huisman, Carol Cook, Linda Van Hal, Linda Dop.

Juniors (Class of 1980)



JUNIORS — FRONT ROW: Bruce Bogaards, Jack Vander Schaaf, Curt Kooyman, Doug Bogaards, Todd Toom, Dean Clark, Dan Dingeman. MIDDLE ROW: Sue Milianta, Lori Van Vark, Michelle Koke, Lorrie Vande Kamp, Andrea Busker, Lori Vande Lune, Vicki Van Vliet. BACK ROW: Roger Boertje, Sandy Bailey, Dave Bowles, Deb Subbert, Janelle Bender, Linda Regal, Terry Vander Pol.



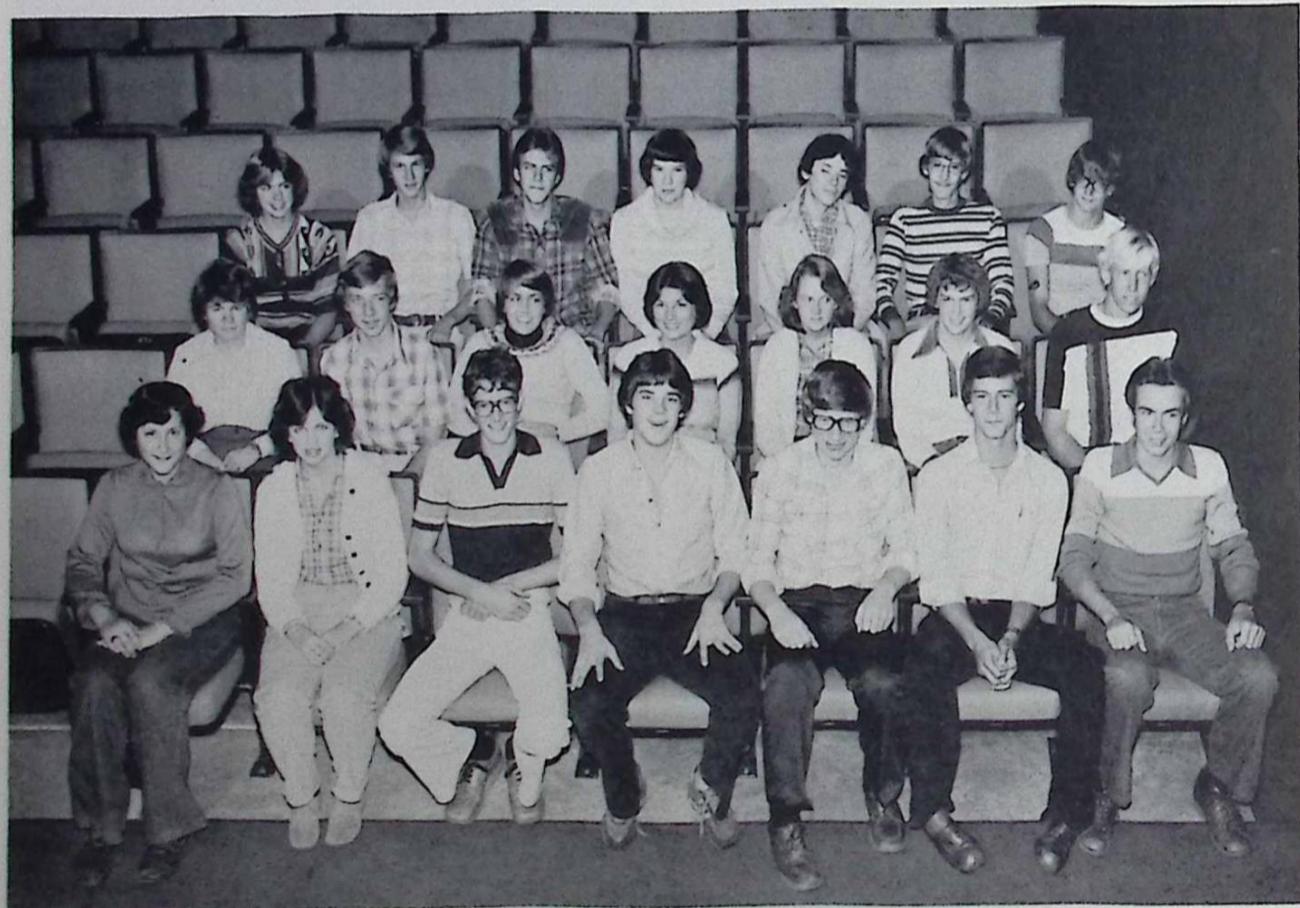
JUNIORS — FRONT ROW: Norma Stursma, Karen Stenner, Beth Boot, Kathy Harvey, Greta De Kock. MIDDLE ROW: Mary Pol, Sheryl Eysink, Scott Rouw, Monica May, Charma Bonnema. BACK ROW: Valerie Butler, Deb Stursma, Valerie Van Waardhuizen, Bruce Speight, Monte Sowles.

NOT PICTURED: Brion Thomas, Mike De Vries, Bill Brammer, Barb Espelund, Toni Jayne, Darlys Kaldenberg, Gloria Trueblood.

Seniors (Class of 1979)



SENIORS — FRONT ROW: Randa Van Dyk, Michelle Sjaardema, Lori Boyd, Becky Rietveld, Kathy Jaarsma, Barb Dykhuis, Kathy Van Gent. **MIDDLE ROW:** Jamie Rouw, Veronda Hill, Marcia Vander Meiden, Roxanne Gordin, Gerae Wandling, Mary Van Waalbeck, Teri Eeling. **BACK ROW:** Brian Vande Lune, Dana Doty, Scott Schaffer, Graydon Bevis, Scott De Jong, Dave Vanden Oever, Curt Kane.

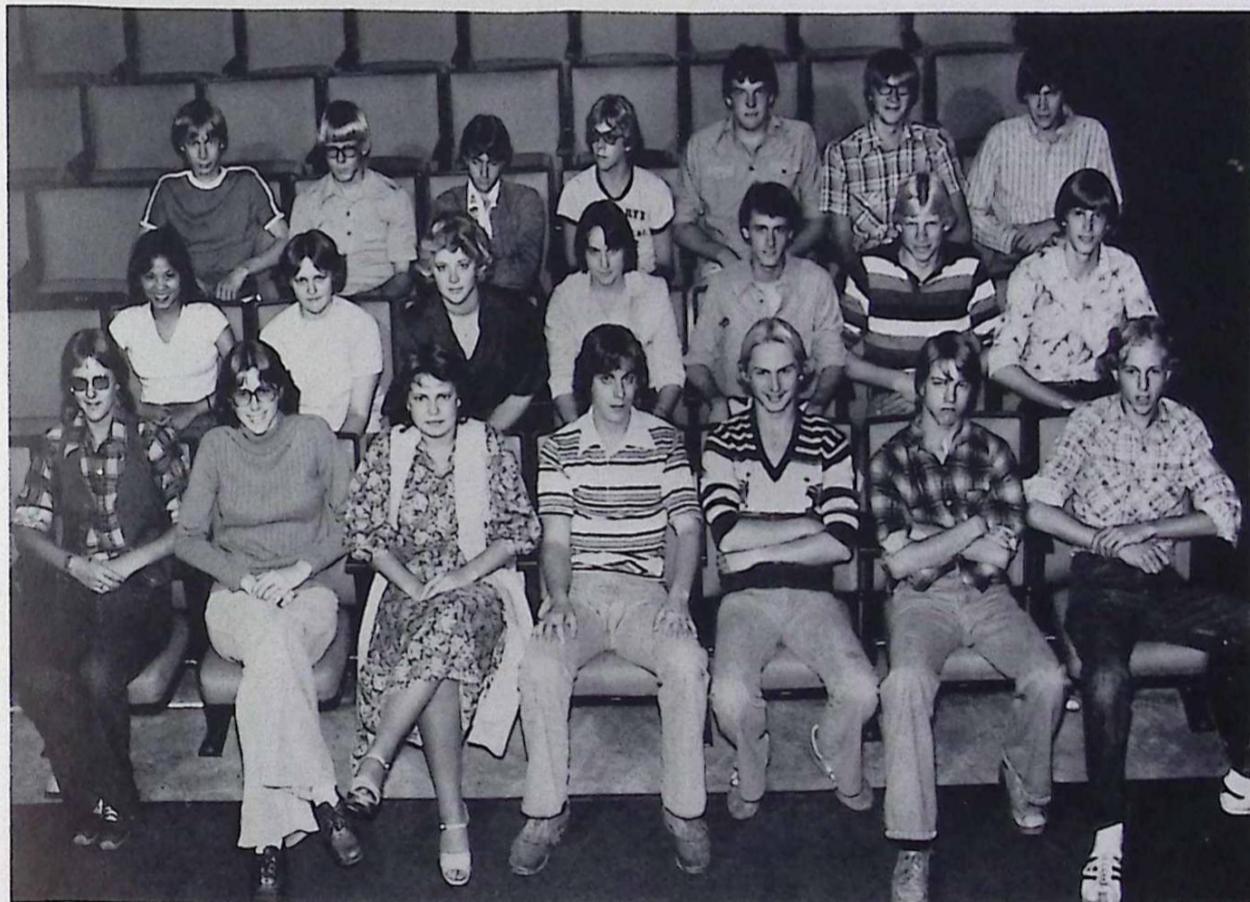


SENIORS — FRONT ROW: Carrie Kroes, Julie Gosselink, Keith Vander Linden, Jay McDaniel, Kirk Kolenbrander, Barry Sagraves, Tony De Boef. **MIDDLE ROW:** Angie Hugen, Bob Folkerts, Deb Van Horn, Tina Valdez, Lori Van Zee, Shellie Klein, Scott Rempe. **BACK ROW:** Linda Dykhuis, Roger Miller, Ron Waits, Karen Vander Hart, Jerry Janssen, Larry Van Vark, Tim Ver Meer.

Seniors (Class of 1979)

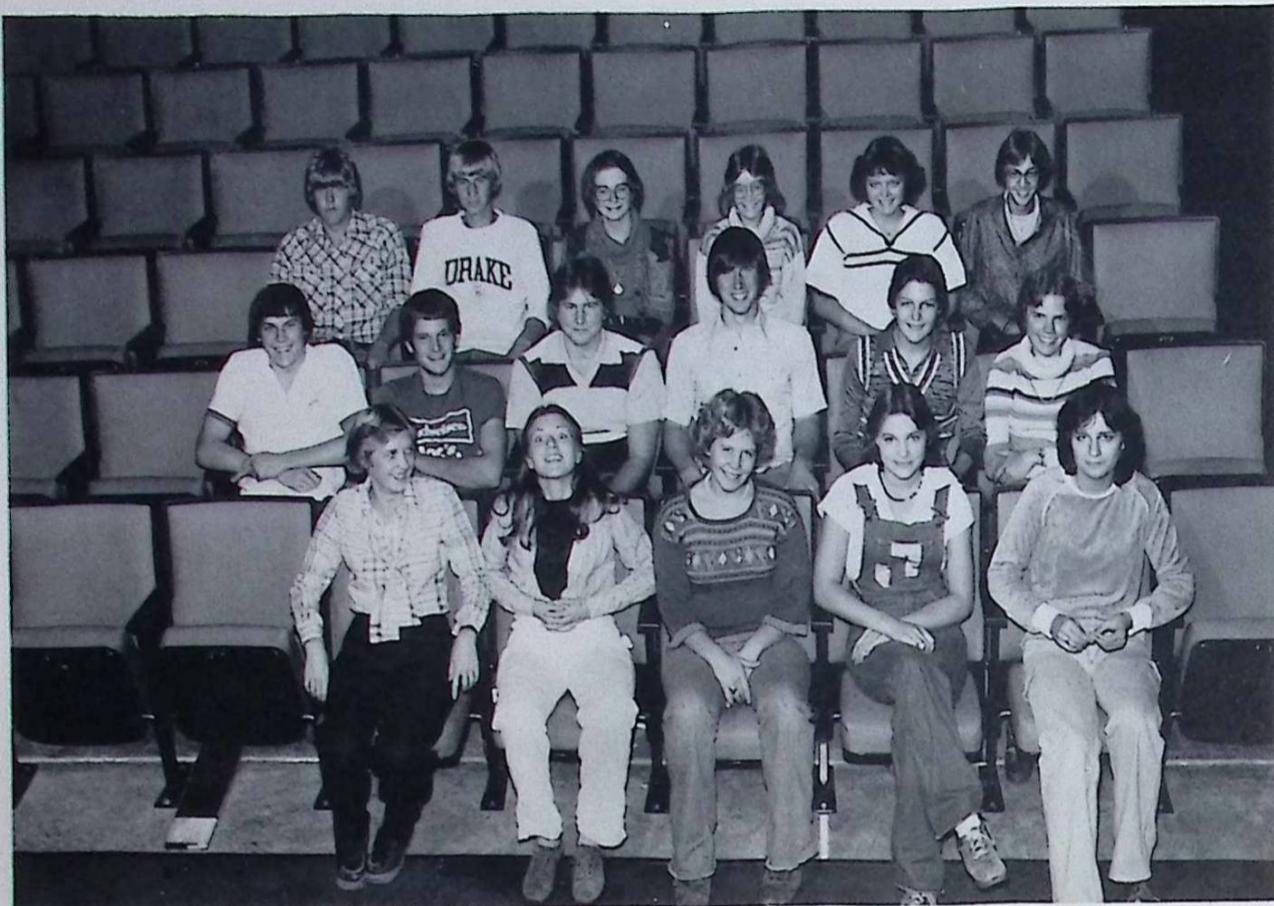


SENIORS — FRONT ROW: Diane Wichhart, Mary Peters, Jana Klein, Kathy Steensma, Penny Petersma, Jackie Valster, Linda Dean. MIDDLE ROW: Gloria Seekamp, Joleen Steenhoek, Dawn Postma, Lori Dobernecker, Diane Terpstra, Bryan De Joode, Vernon Nunnikhoven. BACK ROW: Brenda Willemson, Bonnie Keuning, Kevin Fredricks, Scott Roorda, Randy Van Maanen, Duane Houser, Carl Van Zee.

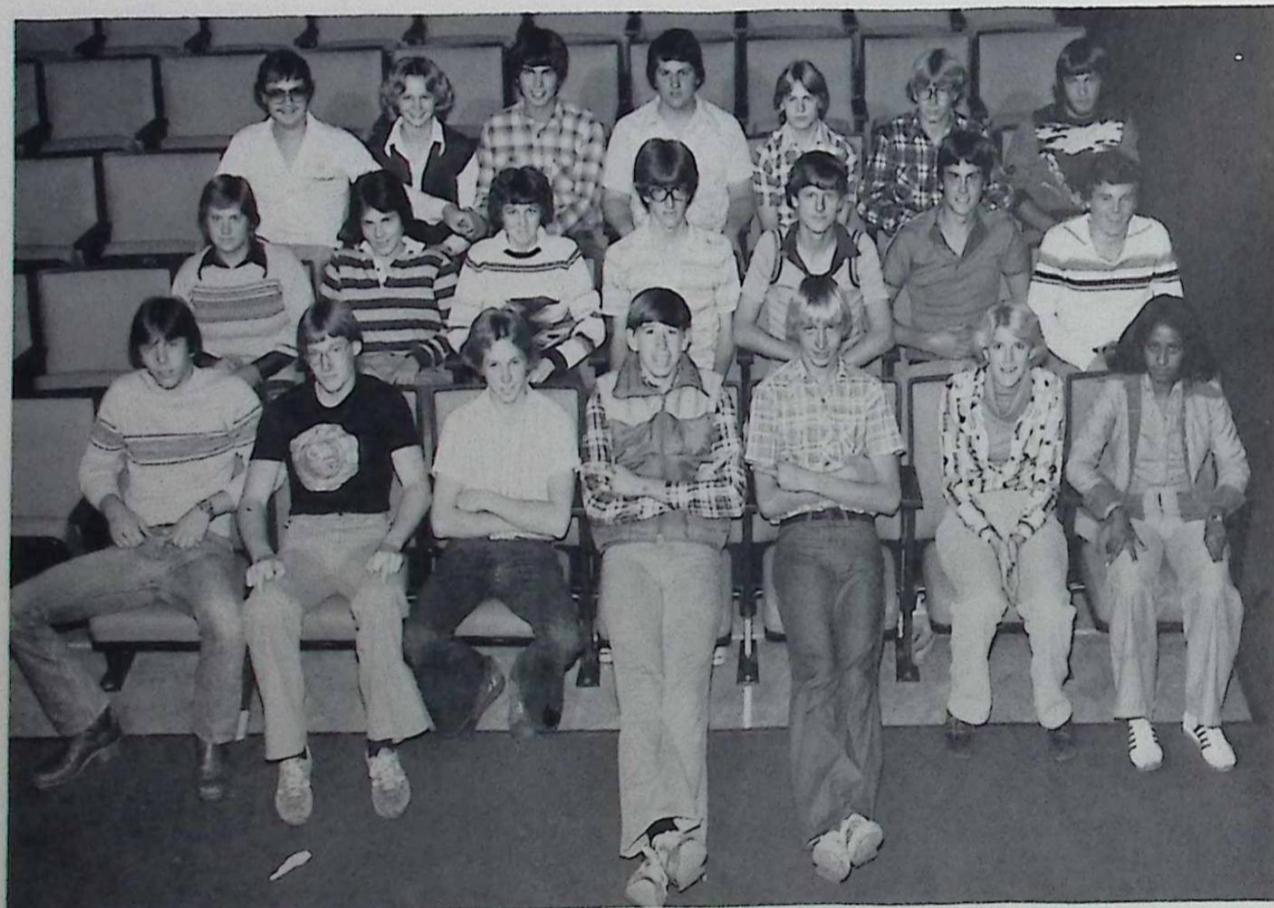


SENIORS — FRONT ROW: Mary Gifford, Jennifer Westra, Linda Magnussen, Steve Vander Zyl, Dan De Haan, Curtis Jones, Eric Boeyink. MIDDLE ROW: Jackie Fahm, Ruth Klein, Amy Harter, Jill Jansma, Kyl Houseal, Vaughn Newendorp, Dave Cowles. BACK ROW: Louie Van Heukelom, Bob Mitchell, Harlan Den Adel, Tim Van Maanen, Tom Vanden Berg, Doyle Nunnikhoven, Keith Rook.

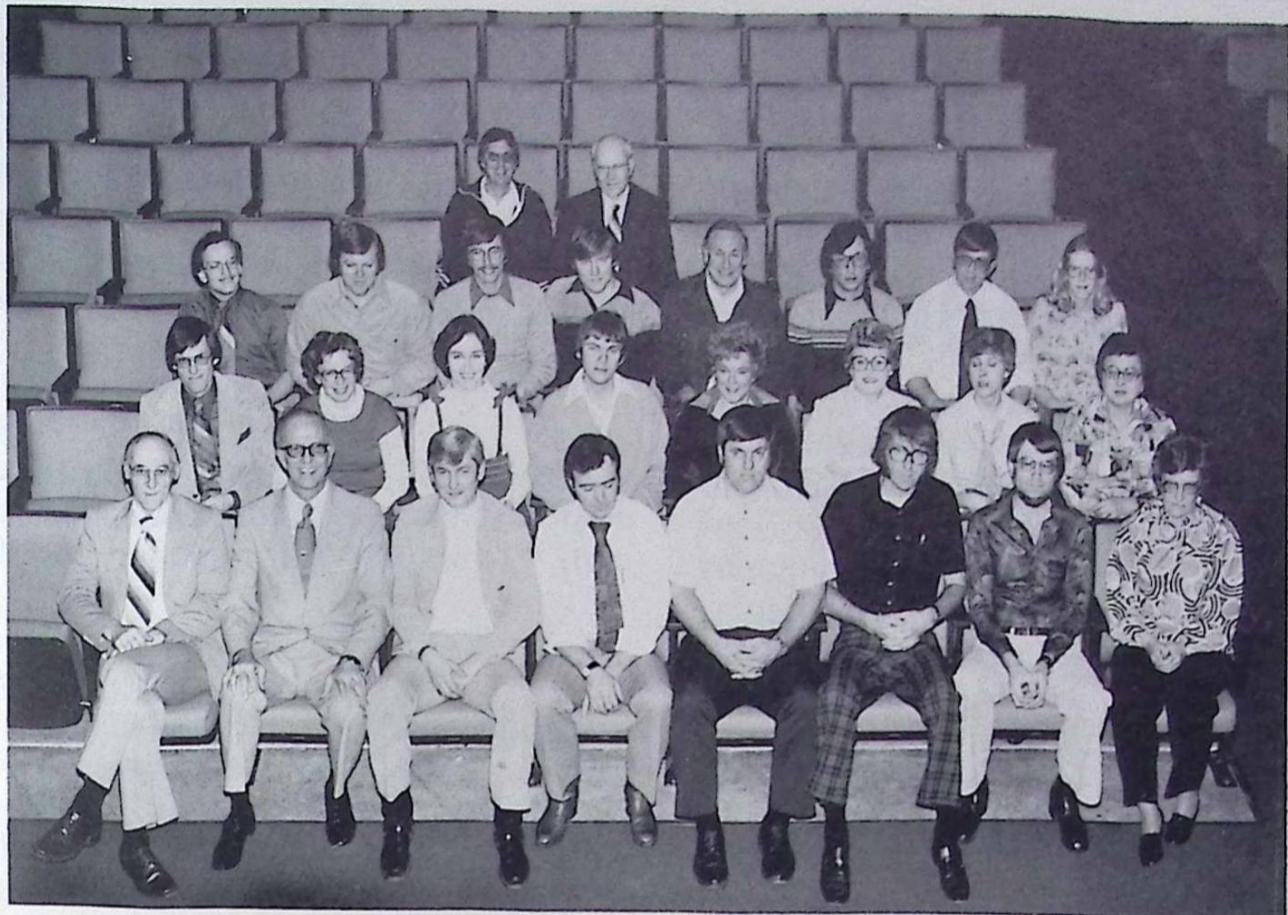
Seniors (Class of 1979)



SENIORS — FRONT ROW: Crysti De Bruin, Julie Ballenger, Sherri Van Maaren, Cindy Battistello, Anna Noel. MIDDLE ROW: Karl Allen, Steve Boot, Paul Vande Ploeg, Rick Williams, Sue Wichhart, Rosa Van Wyk. BACK ROW: Stan Renaud, Danny Steenhoek, Deana Roush, Angie Schippers, Julie Heerema, Cheryl Spoelstra.



SENIORS — FRONT ROW: Dennis Schuring, Evan Thomas, Larry De Haan, Mark May, Jeff Van Sent, Lynda Witzenberg, Fana Goltom. MIDDLE ROW: Kathy Aldrich, Jane Robbins, Brenda Buyert, Randy Baker, Paul Iverson, Mark Vanden Berg, Mike Van Wyk. BACK ROW: Jerry Roorda, Marla Nieuwsma, Rick Groenendyk, Bruce Byers, Ken De Vos, Jeff Bokhoven, Ron Stursma.



HIGH SCHOOL FACULTY, 1978-1979 — FRONT ROW: Tony Hoekstra (assistant principal), Jean Wilkins (principal), John White, Guy Reeves, Fred Anthony, Bob Kramer, Donald Trow, Mary Dickinson. SECOND ROW: Wil Kirschman, Helen Boertje, Mary Linda Griffith, Mike Vint, Joyce Harter, Bonnie Vander Linden, Kathy Bousquet, Ruth Allen. THIRD ROW: Steve Bracewell, Jerry Hirrschoff, William Lubach, Kevin O'Hare, Norris Hale, Guy Blair, Ken Lucas, Margene Van Horn. BACK ROW: Dave Bender, Ray Doorenbos. NOT PICTURED: Dennis Brass, Jerry Krug, Gretchen Miller, Paul Ostrander, Sonja Valdes and Rod Wiersema.



SOME OF THE SUPPORT STAFF for the Pella Community schools in 1980, standing in the high school school kitchen were: FRONT ROW — the cooks, Genevieve Sneller, Marilyn Fox, Matilda Van Zee, Helen Vander Waal, Evelyn Rouw, Ina Kane, Betty Pol, Norma Nunnikhoven, Betty Vriezelaar, Donna Meulpolder. BACK ROW — Jerry Byers, maintenance supervisor; Max Killoren, high school custodian; Elmer Van Waardhulzen, transportation supervisor, and Ella Kool, high school secretary.

Appendix

Original Sources

A Matter of Record

Oldest official volume of school board minutes in the vault at the office of the superintendent of the Pella schools is the book of minutes of annual Board of Directors meetings, running from 1873 to 1920.

Minutes of monthly school board meetings begin with October 11, 1886 and continue to the present. The early volumes are hand-written.

Oldest classroom record in the vault is a room register for 1875. Lists of students in each class every year are continuous for every grade and every year from 1897 to the present.

Complete blueprints of all school buildings and additions beginning with Webster School in 1952 are stored in the vault. Blueprints for the high school built in 1915 were given to the Community Center when that group took over the old school in 1978.

School Board Minutes

by J. B. Dahm

Official school board minutes are complete from 1886. J. B. Dahm, member of the school board from 1964 to 1979 and its president from 1975 to 1979, spent a great deal of time study-

ing the minutes of school board meetings. Here are his notes on things which caught his interest, sometimes excerpts, sometimes summaries.

October 11, 1886

Meeting held in office of new school building (Webster).

December 13, 1886

C. C. Cory, principal of public schools (Supt.) resigns effective Jan. 1, 1887. It appears that he resigned for health reasons and the board was sorry to see him leave. He accepted other work.

A list of 14 applicants are listed, of whom W. W. Koek of Pella was one.

December 17, 1886

L. J. Hancock of Bethany, Missouri was appointed superintendent at an annual salary of \$900.

July 11, 1887

There were 12 teachers listed for the coming year with salaries ranging from \$30 to \$45 per month. Mostly \$35 per month.

July, 1887

Board approved issuance of negotiable bonds of \$13,000 in \$1,000 denominations, interest of five percent per year, payable to City of New York to refinance the mortgage on Webster School.

November 14, 1887

Motion carried to order schools closed on Thanksgiving Day.

April 9, 1888

The grounds committee was instructed to plant good trees around the new building.

The school year was 10 months.

Board voted to postpone the decision on when to end the current school term until the May meeting. May 14, they voted to end the term on June 1.

May 14, 1888

Board appointed a committee "to procure a suitable room for the graduating exercises to be held on Friday evening, the first day of June next."

October 9, 1888

Authorization to build a new school building in the northwest part of the district was given. Size to be 16 x 20 and 10 ft. high. The low bid of \$352 was rejected as being too costly. The specifications were revised and the final cost was \$300 paid to contractor K. Verhey.

Jan. 28, 1889

Complaints were coming that the water in the well by the brick school (later called Park School) was impure so a new well was to be dug on the site.

Vote to change superintendent.

May 31, 1889

Mr. W.L.A. Aul of Battle Creek, Michigan chosen as new superintendent at \$800 per year.

July 23, 1889

Christening of schools (Webster, Park, Howell and Oak Grove).

October 14, 1889

Nonresident student paid his tuition by ringing the schoolbell at the rate of one dollar a month.

June 30, 1890

The offensive condition of the privies was referred to the schoolground committee.

March 23, 1891

Superintendent Aul resigns.

April 27, 1891

J. H. Garber of Adair, Iowa elected superintendent at \$800 annual salary.

May 11, 1891

Advertisement was to appear in Pella Weekblad and Pella Republican for a janitor in

the Webster and Howell Schools. Applicant was to be able to understand English and live in the basement of Webster School at salary of \$275 per year.

June 12, 1893

Six applications were received for the janitor's position which was narrowed down to H. Bootsma and F. Wagoner. The board voted late into the night with the same tie ballot each time. It was then moved to adjourn for one week. After several tie ballots, the choice was postponed until the next meeting. It was moved to cast three ballots at this meeting and all were tied. At the following meeting another three ballots were cast, Mr. Bootsma was the present janitor and continued his work, but by tie vote the board refused to pay him. After five or six meetings it was voted to readvertise at a higher rate of pay. Mr. Bootsma found another position and did not apply. Among the applicants was a Mr. Langerak who was voted in on the first ballot.

July 8, 1895

School loses some funds in bankrupt First National Bank of Pella. Amount \$2170.

November 11, 1895

The matter of building a new privy at the Howell building was referred to the building committee with power to act.

August 2, 1896

A high school principal was chosen, W. H. Lyon of Dallas County at \$45 per month.

September 14, 1896

A working library for use in the high school was initiated and board appropriation of \$20.65 was made.

October 12, 1896

Superintendent Gerber recommended the study of music be introduced in the high school with Principal Lyon as instructor.

February 8, 1897

Board appropriated extra pay for extra janitor work during winter months at \$1 per month.

June 12, 1899

Latin was introduced as a high school subject.

October 9, 1899

The Oak Grove School was authorized to employ a janitor to be paid not to exceed 25 cents per week.

June 11, 1900.

The high school becomes accredited.

September 17, 1900

Superintendent Lyon reports a full and overflowing condition in the schools with further increasing attendance anticipated.

October 8, 1900

Space for classes rented from Central College.

January 14, 1901

The board instructed Superintendent Lyon to draw up a paper instructing the teachers in "points of neatness and good manners."

April 8, 1901

W. W. Cook, local teacher, appointed to replace Lyons as Superintendent. He was chosen out of 30 applicants. Lyons resigned to study law after four year's service here and left highly recommended as a civic leader and superintendent.

September 9, 1901

Sara Nollen resigned as high school principal for health reasons and Mrs. M. E. Main replaced her.

November 11, 1901

The Oak Grove School was closed and the children were transported to the city school by parents. A problem developed when a Mrs. Beerends had offered to take two of her own children and two children of the Buwalda family to the city schools for 75 cents per day but she would not carry the children of Laurens Blanke nor in any way permit her children to be taken with them.

March 17, 1902

Bond issue for building and site in amount of \$15,000 carried by a majority of three votes.

September 15, 1902

The city police were appointed truant officers and compensation was to be 50 cents per arrest.

February 9, 1903

Rising real estate and building costs exceeded the last bond issue of \$15,000. The board was asking for an additional \$5,000 bond issue at the next election. The vote was to be written or printed on the ballot by the voter "For Bonds" or "Against Bonds." This bond issue was passed.

April 13, 1903

Lincoln site purchased for \$2500.

May 1, 1903

W. C. Farmer voted in as Superintendent at annual salary of \$1000.

July 17, 1903

Bids for building received. Total cost of bids and site \$31,000. The amount of money available being only \$24,000 the board rejected the bid and ordered a complete new set of specifications.

September 18, 1903

Contract let for new Lincoln.

November 9, 1903

School desks were purchased for \$2.25 each.

July 11, 1904

School district again victim of a bank closing when Peoples Savings Bank folded.

September 12, 1904

Former Superintendent W. W. Cook in insurance business. (It can be construed from newspaper articles of this time that there had been much friction between the teachers and Cook.)

November 21, 1904

The board learned that there were back taxes due on the site bought from P. H. Bosquet where the new school was built.

November 23, 1904

Bid of \$2400 for sale of Park School and site accepted.

January 9, 1905

Webster and Lincoln buildings connected by phone.

February 23, 1905

Voters approved selling of Howell and Oak Grove Schools.

March 28, 1905

H. Rietveld reelected board president on 14th ballot.

May 8, 1905

Planting of 28 trees at Lincoln School site reported.

September 11, 1905

By board resolution football was prohibited on schoolgrounds.

October 9, 1905

Superintendent Farmer reported 30 percent increase in high school attendance the past two

years; 98 students enrolled. He recommended adding another teacher.

February 28, 1906

A complete school status report given.

August 13, 1906

Resolved: That football be positively prohibited in any manner, shape or form and that there be no organization known as Pella High School Football team and that no vacations be granted for the purpose of visiting football games during school hours.

March 11, 1907

Reported that the rope on the flagpole at Lincoln had been broken. It being a hazardous undertaking to put a new rope in place, it was authorized to contract this job to anyone for the total sum of \$7 provided the school district be released from all responsibilities in case of accident.

March 29, 1907

The graduating class made request to have a play as part of the graduating exercises. Many parents objected to a play and the board vetoed the request.

July 8, 1907

Parents of children living in the closed Oak Grove District requested transportation to the city schools now that the country school was closed. (First school bus transportation initiated.)

November 29, 1907

Moved to cut out two sheets (four pages) of minutes of a special meeting held a few days ago. Carried. (Pages are missing from book)

July 2, 1908

Board meetings were now transferred to the Lincoln building.

March 15, 1909

Senior class petitioned to give a class play in the opera house and approval was granted.

April 12, 1909

Stenography was introduced as an elective subject in lieu of Solid Geometry for the girl students.

July 2, 1909

Teacher's contracts now to include clause to retain 10 percent each month until completion of contract, this to discourage mid-contract resignations.

July 12, 1910

H. Kuyper retired as secretary of the board after serving 27 years. D. J. Gosselink his successor.

February 13, 1911

Board ordered no more girl's basketball be played after the return game in New Sharon.

August 14, 1911

Electric lights installed in school buildings.

February 2, 1912

After 13 years as director, H. J. Vandenberg refused to accept nomination for another term on the board.

March 18, 1912

Proposition to issue \$5000 in bonds to purchase site for new high school lost 140 for, 278 against. Votes of 82 women counted separately; results as follows: 45 for, 37 against.

September 9, 1912

Board voted to give students a drawing pencil, pen holder and pen and ink.

January 13, 1913

High school girls are now permitted to play basketball under supervision of a high school teacher.

March 17, 1913

Cole elected board president but refused to serve. De Haan elected and also refused. Rynsburger elected as board president for ensuing year.

October 13, 1913

Permission granted to organize a boy's football team.

March 8, 1915

Board purchased Lots 6 and 7 in Block 48 South of Second Reformed Church for \$4,000 from the Bousquet Estate.

Bids received for new high school building exceeded funds.

May 14, 1915

The three lowest bidders were asked to submit alternate bids for some deletions and contract was awarded on May 28.

July 10, 1916

Third Reformed Church given permission to use high school auditorium on Sundays while their new church was being built.

May 17, 1917

Suspension of 14 seniors (names listed) for playing "hookey."

March 18, 1918

In a close election, incumbents Rynsburger and De Haan replaced by Fultz and Waechter (first defeat in election noted.)

September 12, 1918

Jay Kempkes employed as athletic director during football season.

October 14, 1918

Board of Health established quarantine because of Spanish influenza and teachers and pupils were indefinitely suspended.

January 3, 1919

Quarantine lifted and school started again on January 6. One hour to be added per day and one-half day on Saturday to make up for lost time.

March 8, 1920

Board member E. M. Cole retired from board after serving 24 years.

September 13, 1920

Democratic campaign committee requested use of auditorium. Request was granted upon payment of \$5 rent and no smoking and no spitting on the floor.

March 21, 1920

Womans suffrage in effect. T. G. Fultz and G. H. Waechter, incumbents, were challenged by two women candidates, namely Jessie Sadler and Kathryn Rynsburger. The vote was quite close. Fultz 240 votes, Waechter, 188. Sadler 143, Rynsburger 136 and Ed Van Zante 78.

April 10, 1922

Board voted 3-2 to cut teacher salaries five percent. Range was \$1125 to \$1350 with the superintendent drawing \$3000 annually.

October 9, 1922

Night classes initiated for Hollanders as requested by 17 petitioners.

March 10, 1924

A close election was held with incumbents Waechter and Fultz reelected. Waechter 314, Fultz 275. W. H. Vander Ploeg 229 and Dirk Vander Ploeg 232.

May 29, 1924

A special board meeting was called to discuss a Junior-Senior class fight over possession of the

Class Flag. If any more fights developed board decided to deny diplomas.

July 1, 1924

Peter Van Sittert, board member, resigned to become secretary of the board succeeding D. G. Gosselink.

February 13, 1928

Twenty-nine school patrons requested stop signs at the grade schools. The board concurred, provided the city approved.

May 14, 1928

Lilly Viersen retired after teaching 51 years.

May 29, 1928

At a special board meeting they required the Senior class to take three extra examinations as a penalty for playing truants the day before.

August 24, 1931

The school had some surplus funds and treasurer was authorized to purchase city bonds in amount of \$8,000 expiring in 1935.

September 5, 1931

Permission granted for different grades to have opportunity for Bible Study in their respective rooms.

May 9, 1932

If 75 percent of the Junior and Senior parents signed a petition requesting it, the board would give permission for them to have a dance in the Gym under faculty supervision.

April 10, 1933

Provision in teachers' contracts stated that if taxes were slow coming in only 50 percent of the monthly salary would be paid and the balance upon receipt of taxes.

August 11, 1933

Janitor De Prere's contract cancelled because of disciplinary problems of his own (a long story).

November 13, 1933

Part of teachers' pay was paid in Script because of shortage of school funds.

April 9, 1934

Band instructor Lewis walked away from his job and board cancelled contract and refused to give him recommendations as his teaching was considered not the best.

August 20, 1934

Teachers required to sign statement saying

whether or not they were married.

March 2, 1935

School district loses funds in closing of banks.

August 26, 1935

The district can get up to 45 percent financial aid from Federal Government for an extension to the high school and the board decided to proceed with the matter.

December 9, 1935

Bond issue of \$32,000 authorized and voted upon, 680 for, 244 against.

April 6, 1936

Board member H. A. Veenstra resigned to become supervisor of the new building project at the high school and Paul Lautenbach appointed in his place.

December, 1936

Sam Versteeg replaced Peter Van Sittert after 12 years as board secretary.

June 3, 1937

C. C. Buerkens appointed superintendent at annual salary of \$2300.

April 4, 1938

Maurice Birdsall of Ocheyden appointed as teacher.

November 13, 1939

Resolution of sympathy for passing of Paul Lautenbach, the first board member known to have died in office.

November 13, 1944

Board passed resolution to forbid and abolish "Walk Painting" and advised a more desirable activity.

March 10, 1947

County auditor and treasurer appeared before board advising them of oversight in auditor's office of spreading the 2½ mill levy over the school district so no funds would be available from the 2½ mill fund voted by the district the previous year. No practical solution was presented. This levy amounted to \$4500 for the schoolhouse fund. At a later meeting (July 7) the board voted to transfer this amount from the general fund.

September 6, 1947

Two parents of Junior High pupils registered vociferous complaints relative to the treatment their children had received at a Junior High initiation party sponsored by the Junior High facul-

ty, excessive paddling with books forming the basis of the complaints.

The board felt the school had outgrown this useless tradition and recommended something more constructive be substituted.

March 15, 1948

Dr. H. O. Wormhoudt retired from the board after serving twelve years, the last ten as president of the board.

January 10, 1949

A citizen's committee appeared before the board urging them to make every effort to obtain a site for constructing a grade and junior high building to replace Webster. The board concurred and instructed Superintendent Buerkens to make a formal study.

March 21, 1949

After serving 14 years on the board, A. P. Verploeg retired and J. G. Boat was the replacement voted by the people.

August 24, 1949

Professional recommendations for school sites and building received.

October 11, 1949

Barb Vander Werf appointed Superintendent's secretary.

December 12, 1949

Webster School bonds sold in amount of \$200,000.

June 9, 1950

Bids received for new Webster building.

June 2, 1951

The perplexing problem of pupil transportation was again brought up. Much dissatisfaction and displeasure was again recited. The transportation committee was instructed to make a thorough investigation of the problem including bus routes, pupil locations, types and capacities of buses as well as bus drivers and housing of the vehicles.

March 14, 1952

The board had difficulties settling the account with the Webster building contractor as there were many claims made against his account.

April 24, 1952

Open house at new Webster building. Junior high students escorted visitors through the building in groups. An estimated 1500 people visited Webster. A student checker in the kindergarten room alone counted 1188.

March 12, 1953

Discipline problems on a pep bus to Ottumwa.

January 10, 1955

A new addition was completed on the high school on Union Street.

November 11, 1957

Board purchased present high school site of 50 acres more or less for \$27,500.

July 1, 1958

Date of reorganization of school district.

August 25, 1959

Henry Cox offered \$5000 on an annuity basis to establish the Cox Music Foundation. Because of legal points, it was not possible to accept this type of donation.

December 11, 1961

New high school building report: The architect reported that for some mysterious or unaccountable reason the water faucets in some nine rooms had been omitted in the specifications. Realizing that water could not be permitted to flow uncontrolled under pressure from the ground back to the ground without making a functional contribution covering the expense of harnessing, transportation and treatment, the architect was obliged to solicit bids for the omitted equipment.

Letters to Holland

*From book, Amsterdamse Emigranten,
translated by Martha Lautenbach.*

Page 109. Dominie H.P. Scholte writes letter to J.A. Wormser August 4, 1848.

Last April we had an election for Township officers. I was chosen as Justice of the Peace (Vrederegter) and School Inspector. As School Inspector I organized our township in districts and two of these districts are organized according to law. The school in the Pella District has now been in operation for two months.

In the Skunk District we are busy building a home and school for Muntingh where he is going to locate. Overkamp, with Hospers as assistant, is staying in Pella. The Amsterdam District is not yet organized and as yet we do not have a suitable teacher, but there are not many children in this district yet. Then there are two additional districts under my jurisdiction where chiefly American people live.

Page 235. K. De Jong writes a letter to Wormser in 1851.

We have three teachers for our children in both Holland and English, namely: Scholte, Barendrecht and De Hoog.

Page 262. H. M. Bosquet-Chabot writes in a letter February 17, 1853.

Mr. Dwight is currently teacher and has more than thirty pupils. He gives private lessons and is a very congenial fellow, his rank being professor, and comes from Mount Pleasant as a preacher.

Public School Policy and Rules, 1877

Excerpts from Manual of the Public Schools, of the City of Pella, Iowa, published in March, 1877 by order of the Board of Education. A copy of the manual is in the Central College Archives.

Rules for the Board

ARTICLE 1. The regular meetings of the Board shall be held on the first Monday of each month at the office of the Board. Special meetings may be called by the President or Secretary, at the request of any two members of the Board. (*The board consisted of president, secretary, treasurer and six other members.*)

ARTICLE 6. At the first meeting of the Board in each year, the President shall appoint, subject to the approval of the Board, four standing committees, consisting of three members each, to whom shall be referred the following subjects of business:

1. School grounds, building and repairs.
2. Fuel, furniture, apparatus, supplies and janitors.
3. Finance, taxes and claims.
4. Rules, salaries, teachers, textbooks and examinations.

Duties of the Principal

ARTICLE 1. The Principal shall act under the direction of the Board of Directors, and shall have the general supervision of all the public schools, buildings and grounds; he shall visit each school as often as may be necessary to acquaint himself with the condition of the schools, and qualifications of the teachers.

ARTICLE 2. He shall, with the assistance of the teachers, classify the pupils, aid in maintaining good order, and cause the rules and course of study adopted by the Board to be strictly followed.

ARTICLE 3. All promotions from one class to another, shall be made under his supervision. He shall hold such examinations as he or the Board may think proper, to ascertain the proficiency of

the pupils, and the success of the teachers.

ARTICLE 8. At the close of the school year he shall prepare a report of the condition of the schools, together with such suggestions, information and recommendations as he may deem proper.

Duties of Teachers

ARTICLE 1. All teachers accepting positions must subscribe fully to the following conditions: They shall observe and carry into effect all regulations of the Board and Principal, in relation to their respective school, and attend punctually the meetings of the teachers under the direction of the Principal.

ARTICLE 3. The morning exercises of each department shall commence by calling roll and reading Scriptures without note or comment.

ARTICLE 5. It shall be their duty to practice such discipline in and about their school as would be exercised by a kind and judicious parent in his family, always firm and vigilant, but prudent. They shall endeavor on all proper occasions to impress upon the minds of their pupils the principles of morality and virtue, a sacred regard for truth, love to God, love to man, sobriety, industry and frugality. But no teacher shall exercise any sectarian influence in the school.

ARTICLE 8. Each teacher in the employ of the Board shall file with the Principal at the close of each quarter of the scholastic year, a list of all cases of corporal punishment inflicted by said teacher during the quarter, giving the name of pupil and cause of punishment.

ARTICLE 12. Teachers shall have special care of their respective school rooms, and shall be held responsible for the preservation of furniture and apparatus belonging to the same.

Pupils and Their Duties

ARTICLE 1. No child shall be admitted as a pupil who has not attained the age of five years; nor shall an applicant be admitted to any class unless he be found capable of pursuing all the studies of such class, without retarding its progress.

ARTICLE 2. All pupils are expected to be regular and punctual in their attendance, and conform to the regulations of the school; to be diligent in study, respectful to teachers, and kind to schoolmates, and to refrain entirely from the use of tobacco, and profane and indecent language.

ARTICLE 4. Every pupil who shall be absent from school, or tardy, shall bring to his teacher a written excuse from his parents or guardian, stating the cause of such absence or tardiness.

ARTICLE 5. Absence from any regular examination, or previously appointed examination

by the Principal for any cause except sickness, shall be considered sufficient reason for placing such pupils in the next lower class.

ARTICLE 6. Pupils desiring to remain in the school room at noon shall be subject to such restrictions as the Principal or teacher may impose, and shall in all cases be held responsible for damage done to the room or its contents, and for any disorder or misplacement of books or furniture.

ARTICLE 7. Pupils shall walk quietly up and down stairs and through the halls, making no loud noise at any time in any part of the building.

ARTICLE 8. Pupils must leave the school premises and go directly home after school is closed both at noon and night; and must not bring to the school books or papers foreign to the purpose of study. (Editor's note: "Pea shooters and squirt guns" is written in the margin beside this rule.)

ARTICLE 9. Any pupil that may be aggrieved or wronged by another pupil, may report the fact to his teacher. No pupil, in any case, shall attempt to avenge his own wrong.

ARTICLE 10. Pupils are forbidden to throw stones, snowballs, or missiles of any kind, while upon the schoolgrounds.

Suspension

ARTICLE 1. Cleanliness of person and clothing is required of every pupil, and repeated neglect, or refusal to comply with this rule shall be sufficient cause for suspension from school.

ARTICLE 3. Any pupil guilty of disobedience, or of gross misconduct, may be suspended by the Principal, written notice of which (stating the cause), shall be immediately given to the parents or guardian and to the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE 5. The carrying or having of ammunition, firearms, or other deadly weapons about the school building or grounds is expressly forbidden, and will be cause for immediate suspension.

Janitors

It shall be the duty of the janitors to build fires, when needed; to carefully dust the school room, halls, closets, maps, windows, seats, etc.; to leave a pail of water in each hall both morning and noon; to take charge of the school buildings and grounds; to carefully and thoroughly sweep the school rooms, halls, and passages thereto, after the close of each school day; to close and lock the windows at night; to carefully guard the buildings from all damage by fire; to scrub all the floors at least once in two months; ... to keep furnaces, stoves, and all smoke pipes free from all unnecessary accumulations of ashes and soot; ... to keep the fences and walks in good repair; to keep the outhouses clean and in good

repair at all times, and to keep the same locked when school is not in session...

County Superintendent's Biennial Report, 1876-1877

From report for State Superintendent of Public Instruction, published in Pella Weekly Blade, January 1, 1878.

Many of the schoolhouses are ornaments in the neighborhood in which they are located; bushes and shrubbery are planted and the entire surroundings made attractive.

Six new schoolhouses were erected in Marion County in 1876, all of them comfortable and convenient, but we would especially refer to Pella and Knoxville schoolhouses. The former has erected a two-story brick building containing eight large rooms, a library, and spacious hall, through which egress is made quietly and orderly. The heating is done by a furnace, and the furniture of the latest and most approved style. The principal of the school is enthusiastic in his work and every suggestion he makes is carried out by the school board; nothing is wanting. The entire cost is \$25,000.

Rural Schools

With the exception of three, all of the schools in the county have been in session at least six months, many have extended the term to eight and ten months.

Public Schools in Pella, 1880

History of Marion County, Iowa, published by Union Historical Company, Birdsall, Williams and Company, Des Moines, 1881. This excerpt is from the section on Lake Prairie Township, pages 634 and 635.

The public schools of Pella have long enjoyed the reputation of being among the best in the State. Not only have the people been liberal in voting funds for the erection of school buildings and the payment of teachers' salaries, but what is even more important, they have been careful to vote in members of the school board who have brought with them to this responsible position, experience and a determination to make of the public school all of which the system is susceptible. They have been fortunate in their selection of a superintendent in the person of Prof. Cory, who has held that position of honor and trust for many years. It has long been demonstrated by experience as it can readily be

shown by reason, that the highest efficiency in the public schools can only be obtained by long and uninterrupted tenure of office in the office of superintendent.

There are enrolled in the public schools of Pella between eight hundred and nine hundred pupils; among the school buildings is a magnificent new brick structure, recently erected at a cost of \$20,000.

Note: Additional information about public schools on these pages consists of a list of the eight men who served as superintendent of schools from 1858 to 1880; names of the six men serving on the Board of Directors, the school treasurer, the board secretary, and the 13 people teaching in the Pella schools.

Schools in Lake Prairie Township, 1880

From History of Marion County, Iowa, published by Union Historical Company, 1881, page 625.

The veritable first settlers of Lake Prairie Township (where Pella and much of the school district is located) were Virginians by the name of Nossaman and Hamilton. They came during the year 1843, John B. Hamilton having the honor of building the first house in the township... Hamilton was the first school fund commissioner. From some of his records still in existence, we find that in 1851 he subdivided Lake Prairie Township into school districts of which there were six in number, making one for every twelve miles of territory. At present there is a school district constituted out of every four square miles of territory, and all the districts are well supplied with schoolhouses. Last year, outside the city of Pella, there was raised by special taxation, for school purposes, the sum of \$2,000.

Rules and Regulations, 1892

Excerpts from Rules and Regulations and Course of Study of the Pella Schools, published by the authority of the School Board of Pella, Iowa in 1892. A copy of this manual is in the archives of Central College.

School Year

The school year shall commence on the first Monday of September unless otherwise ordered by the Board, and shall be divided into three terms — Fall, Winter and Spring — of such length as the Board may direct. There shall

be a vacation of one week during the holidays and another of one week between the Winter and Spring terms.

Daily Sessions

The school hours shall be from 9 o'clock a.m. to 12 o'clock, and from 1:30 to 4:00 p.m., with a recess of fifteen minutes each half day provided that Primary teachers may dismiss from fifteen to thirty minutes earlier each session, according to arrangements made by Superintendent. The first bell for each session shall begin to ring at 8:30 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. and ring four minutes; the teachers' bell shall ring a few strokes at 8:40 a.m. and 1:10 p.m.; the assembly bell shall begin to ring at 8:55 a.m. and 1:25 p.m., and ring two minutes; the tardy bell shall tap at 9:00 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.

Tuition

When there is room for non-resident pupils, they may be admitted on payment of tuition, in advance, to the Secretary, who shall give a receipt to be taken to the Superintendent.

The rates of tuition are as follows:

In the High School \$2.00 per month.
In the Grammar Rooms \$1.75 per month.
In the Intermediate Rooms . \$1.50 per month.
In the Primary Grades \$1.50 per month.

Janitors

The janitors shall ... keep the outhouses clean and in good order; dust the erasers once a week; preserve and repair school property so far as practicable; mow weeds...

Superintendent

The Superintendent, under the advice and directions of the Board of Education shall ... assist the teachers to grade the schools. And he shall pay particular attention to the classification of pupils; assign them, on entering, to their appropriate classes and department, and transfer the pupils from one class or department to another, as occasion may require ... He shall name the time and prescribe the mode of examination of pupils for promotion from class to class and grade to grade, and determine the conditions thereof, so that they may be equal and uniform throughout the schools ... He shall investigate cases of misconduct, referred to him by any teacher, or of discipline brought to his notice by any parent or guardian, and on a knowledge of the circumstances, shall exercise full discretion in settlement of the case ... He may suspend pupils for truancy, continued idleness, profanity, falsehood, disrespectful or obscene language, for willful or persistent disobedience, or for such conduct in or out of school, as may render the pupil an unfit member

of the schools. And any pupils thus suspended can only be reinstated by action of the Board ... The superintendent is further required to devote as much time as he deems advisable to the instruction of classes from the High School Department. He shall also be in his office at the Webster building from 8:30 to 9:00 a.m and from 4:00 to 4:30 p.m. for the reception of parents or others who may wish to consult him on school matters.

Teachers

Eligibility: No person shall be employed to teach in any of the schools in the city without first presenting a State Diploma, a State Certificate or a First-Class Certificate from the County Superintendent of Schools.

OPENING EXERCISES: It shall be the duty of the teachers to hold religious exercises in their respective rooms at the commencement of the morning session. These exercises shall consist of reading from the Scriptures, without comment, and appropriate singing.

CORPORAL PUNISHMENT. Teachers shall at once report to the Superintendent every case of corporal punishment, and the circumstances connected therewith; but in no case, shall punishment on the head or hand be permitted.

CARE OF PUPILS. It shall be the duty of teachers to exercise constant care over the general conduct of pupils while at school, and to exercise an influence over them on their way to and from school. They shall avail themselves of every opportunity to instruct their pupils in principles of honor, truth and justice; and to inspire a reverence for God, and to inculcate the observance of correct habits and good manners.

PROGRAMME. Each teacher shall, within one week after the opening of each term, furnish the Superintendent with a program of the daily exercises, which must be approved by him, and shall notify him immediately of any changes desired to be made from the same. There shall also be a copy of the program displayed in each room.

Pupils

ACCOUNTABILITY TO TEACHER: Pupils shall be accountable to the teacher of their respective rooms for conduct while going to or returning from school.

SUSPENDED PUPILS. No suspended pupil shall have a right to be upon the school premises during the time of suspension; and shall be ordered off by the Superintendent, or the teacher having charge of the grounds.

CLEANLINESS. Pupils shall observe cleanliness of person and dress, and keep their desks and the floor around them in a neat and orderly condition. The use of tobacco about the school

buildings is strictly forbidden.

BRING EXCUSES. Pupils are required to bring excuses from their parents or guardians in all cases of absence, tardiness, or for dismissal before the close of school. Any pupil forging or furnishing a forged excuse may be suspended by the Superintendent.

GENERAL DUTIES. Pupils are required to attend school punctually and regularly to conform to all the rules of the school; to promptly and cheerfully obey all directions of the Superintendent and their teacher, (all pupils are subject to the control of any teacher during intermission, whether a member of such teacher's department or not); to observe good order; to be diligent in study; to be respectful to the Superintendent, teachers, and janitors; to be kind and obliging to schoolmates; to avoid littering in the halls; to pass quietly in the halls, and up and down stairs; to avoid snow-balling on or about the premises. And the bringing of fire-arms, fire-crackers, or other dangerous articles upon or about the school grounds is absolutely forbidden.

List of Books in School Library

Titles of all of the books in the library at Webster School are listed in 1892 handbook. Here is a summary:

BOOKS OF REFERENCE. Seven sets of "cyclopedias" ranging from one to 15 volumes plus a copy of "Civil Government of Iowa, Manual of the Constitution."

HISTORY. 23 volumes including Motley's three-volume history of the Dutch Republic.

BIOGRAPHY. Books on Grant, Kit Carson, Farragut, Webster, Robert Fulton, Sheridan, Sherman, Lincoln, Washington, Sam Houston and Miles Standish.

GEOGRAPHICAL. Seven volumes in Bayard Taylor's "Library of Travel," and 10 volumes of Rollo's tours, including one on Holland.

GENERAL LITERATURE. 27 volumes of Sir Walter Scott's novels, 16 books by Nathaniel Hawthorne, four by Charles Dickens, 20 by Washington Irving, 29 by James Fenimore Cooper, three by Louisa Mae Alcott, and 18 by four other authors.

MISCELLANEOUS. 92 volumes that included Jane Eyre, Merchant of Venice, Longfellow's poems, Swiss Family Robinson, Tom Brown's School Days, and Uncle Tom's Cabin.

Suggestions

Rules and Regulations and Course of Study of the Pella Schools of Pella, Iowa, published by authority of the School Board in 1892 ends with three pages of suggestions for the teachers. Here are excerpts.

READING. Great care must be taken that all

unnatural tones be broken up and that the position, breathing, etc, be such that all the organs of vocalization have free and easy play. Throughout the whole realm of nature there is no sound equal in grandeur and beauty, to the human voice; in childhood it is naturally pure and musical and the teacher should see that it become not harsh and grating. In teaching primary reading, several methods are employed in the schools of this country, any of which will, in the hands of a skillful teacher, develop good readers. The so-called "Word and Phonic" method is the one most widely used and the one recommended in this course. The essential principles of this method must continue to be the best method of the coming ages because it is the most philosophical and at the same time the most thoroughly practical and commonsense like. The greatest gift the primary teacher bestows upon her pupil is the power to discover a new word.

NUMBERS. In teaching arithmetic, aim at three things: 1) Development of consecutive thought; 2) Accuracy; 3) Rapidity.

WRITING. Many teachers fail in teaching writing because they teach it as an imitative art, disregarding altogether the thought element. The whole philosophy of penmanship rests upon the principle that it is the child's will power expressed in form. He must first get a clear mental picture of the perfect letter and then express this concept on paper. Suppose you are now ready to conduct a recitation in writing: 1) Have the pupils open their books and look closely at the new letter. 2) Analyze the letter into its elements. 3) Practice the elements. 4) By an act of synthesis, combine the elements into a perfect whole and insist that every effort shall be an earnest effort to express the true conception of the perfect letter in form upon the paper.

FLAG DAYS. Jan. 1, Emancipation Proclamation; Jan. 12, Invention of Telegraphy; Feb. 12, Birthday of Lincoln; Feb. 22, Birthday of Washington; Feb. 22, Birthday of Lowell; Feb. 27, Birthday of Longfellow; March 9, Engagement between Monitor and Merrimac; April 19, Battle of Lexington; April 30, Inauguration of Washington; May 30, Memorial Day; July 3, Battle of Gettysburg; July 4, Declaration of Independence; Oct. 12, Discovery of America by Columbus; November, Thanksgiving Day; Dec. 22, Landing of the Pilgrims, Dec. 28, Iowa admitted to the Union.

Through her own ingenuity, aided by the Superintendent, each teacher will be able to devise a suitable program for each of these days ... Upon the proper training of our school youth, in the principles of morality and patriotism, depends the perpetuity of our social and political institutions. It is of supreme importance, then, that we instill into their minds the prin-

ciples of fidelity to the government which fosters us all.

MORALS AND MANNERS. A graded course in Morals and Manners is to be found with the work of the respective grades. It is not contemplated that this work shall have a place on the daily or weekly program. Neither is it contemplated that there shall be a set time for a particular part of it; this would be in violation of all pedagogical principles; it is meant to be suggestive and to serve as an outline for the teachers. Opportunities will arise sometime within the year for the teacher to make each subject laid down the nucleus around which to gather great moral truths. Do not neglect these opportunities. We believe it impossible to place too high an ideal before the pupils. Do not teach them to thirst for glory or fame alone; rather hold up before them the ideal of an honest man or woman, around whose life there is a halo of the brightest glory, which comes with practical, well-earned success.

SCHOOL MANAGEMENT. Do not expect too much of your pupils; remember that they are children and be kind, patient and considerate. Praise their good work; ordinarily, ten words of praise should be given to one of censure; if there be nothing to praise, it is your duty to create something to praise. Children love a kind word; this desire to be admired, to receive applause, lies at the foundation of nearly all great human action. Very often there is a wide gulf existing between teacher and pupil; this should not be; there should exist a common feeling of interest and love. Remember that love is the great beneficial force; it is the foundation of the bird's song; it blends the colors on the moth's wings, it has felled forests and navigated seas; it has given us the symphonies in music; it lightens the teacher's labors and heightens the pupils' joys. The teacher stands at the threshold of the child's life and sees two paths leading in opposite directions. One leads to the street — to vicious habits, lying theft, drunkenness, poverty, disgrace, wretchedness; a life with no aim, no purpose; a miserable failure! The other leads to success in business, to the confidence and approbation of mankind, to the elevation of the race, to the dignity of humanity, and brings its possessor happiness and contentment in old age. With such conceptions the true teacher works to realize her highest ideals, and when at last she falls, she points out to her pupils the path to a glorious reward.

FINIS

Muntingh's School

Excerpts from K. Van Stigt's History, 1897,

translated from Dutch by Martha Lautenbach.

Before a schoolhouse was built, Muntingh taught classes in his own log cabin, just east of where the big brick store now stands. Here H.F. Bousquet conducts his large hardware and machinery business. Directly east of this large building, Muntingh had built his log house which served both as a home and as a school. Muntingh also taught night classes, and we feel he did a great service for the community in this way.

We did not have steam heat, nor electric light, and yet we did not suffer from the cold because there was plenty of firewood; and as far as light was concerned, almost every home was a candle factory in those days. Each student, in turn, brought homemade candles for the school. Just as there was a great difference in heating and lighting between then and now, even greater was the difference in subjects and methods. There were many reasons for this, foremost of which is that we were then only halfway in the century of enlightenment and now we are almost at the end. Be that as it may, one found very thorough instruction in the three most necessary subjects — reading, writing and arithmetic.

The method used by Overkamp and Muntingh in teaching English during those early years certainly differed from the methods in use now. The pupils (with one exception) had all been born in the Netherlands, so one began at the beginning and taught the pupils to read and spell the English language, and then it had to be translated for them so they would know what they were reading. The only pupil who was an exception to the above was Major Post who, in the beginning, was the only American child that attended the school. Major Post is always proud of the fact that he was Overkamp's pupil in that first year of the Colony's existence. He learned the Dutch language then and has never forgotten it.

Letter to Teachers, 1901

In April, 1901, the *Pella Advertiser* ran a letter from County Superintendent of Schools Crew to the rural teachers of Marion County. He urged the teachers to follow the state course of study and to conduct a "graded school."

Looking forward to his spring inspection of the rural schools, he asked:

Will I find you following the old haphazard methods of forty years ago? ... Will I find you enthusiastically teaching current events and keeping your school posted on the progress of the greatest age in the world's history? ... Will I find you teaching manners, morality, honor and patriotism?

Pella Schools, 1902

Souvenir History and Biography of Pella,
printed by Pella Chronicle, 1902.

The thrifty-minded business man seeking a location never neglects to inquire into the educational advantages, and in this respect, Pella is able to bear scrutiny favorably. Her school system is one of which to be proud, and it is being improved every year. Today there are three school buildings, which up to this year have been commodious, but at present, necessity demands another which we feel our good people will erect the coming year, as the school board has taken steps to submit the proposition to the voters. It is expected that in addition to the present branches taught that draughting, cooking and manual training will be installed.

Pella Schools, 1904

In 1904, when Lincoln School was first used and there was a new superintendent, a new handbook was published. The list of teachers at the front of the book shows that kindergarten had been added to the program of the Pella schools; and Howell, Park and Oak Grove Schools had been closed, leaving two schools in Pella — Webster and Lincoln.

Much of the book is similar to the contents of the 1892 handbook. Here are excerpts from portions of the book which are different from the previous book. ELH

Pupils

DESKS. Each pupil shall have a particular desk assigned him and shall be required to keep it in good order. He shall not be permitted to use any other than his own desk.

PROFANE LANGUAGE. No pupil shall be allowed to retain his connection with the schools who indulges in profane or unchaste language, or who conducts himself in a disorderly manner going to or returning from school.

RHETORICALS. Pupils are required to take part in the regular rhetorical work and general exercises of the school, unless, for good reason they are excused by the Superintendent. The rhetorical work shall constitute a part of the Course of Study.

DETAINED FOR WORK. Pupils who are back in their school work may be detained till 4:30 o'clock of afternoons for individual instruction by the teacher.

Hints for Pupils, 1904

1. Attend quietly to your own business at your own desk.

2. Be attentive and respond cheerfully to every school requirement.
3. Move quietly through the halls and rooms.
4. Avoid all things that tend to disturb the school.
5. Go to and from school in such a manner as not to disturb anyone.
6. Obey at once the signals for entering the schoolhouse.
7. Give proper excuses for absence and tardiness.
8. Help to carry out all plans for the good of the school.
9. Avoid tale-bearing.
10. Protect the weak and unfortunate.
11. Do not injure school property.
12. Keep your shoes and floor about desk clean.
13. Cultivate promptness, energy and patient industry.
14. Learn the value of time, and strive to improve every portion of it.
15. Be generous in spirit and dealing with others.
16. Be earnest in play in the time of play, and equally earnest in work in the time of work.
17. Do the best you can in every work, knowing that it is only our **best** that builds good character.
18. Build up a good character, and your reputation will take care of itself.
19. Let no day pass without adding to your store of knowledge.
20. Be truthful and use the best language on all occasions.
21. Be clean in person, dress, habits, thought and speech.
22. Be dutiful, polite and respectful to parents, teachers and to all whom you meet.
23. Finally, be courteous, obedient, thoughtful, earnest, attentive, studious, and industrious, if you would win the highest esteem of your teachers, schoolmates, parents and the general public, and most of all, your own self-respect.

Parents

Parents should heartily co-operate with the teachers in their work. Do not look for miracles in the way of good habits and character, physical and moral health or scholarship.

Newspaper Items

Central College archives and Pella Chronicle office both have incomplete files of newspapers published in Pella. They are excellent sources of information about the Pella schools. Not all of the files were examined in writing this book, but much of the information in the book is from these sources. Here are newspaper items with in-

teresting information not included in other places in Pella School History.

PELLA GAZETTE, Volume One, Number One, Feb. 1, 1855 - In the schools, the English language is predominant.

PELLA BLADE, Dec. 25, 1877 - Wouldn't it be a good idea for the Marshal, or someone else, to fix that sideling sidewalk just east of the new schoolhouse before a broken neck is carried home by some of Pella's good looking citizens?

PELLA BLADE, Jan. 1, 1878 - Mr. J.H. Applegate, who has held the position of assistant teacher to Prof. C.C. Cory in our public schools, has given up the place to accept a similar position in the public schools of Knoxville. Mr. Applegate is a young man of fine abilities, and an excellent teacher. We congratulate Knoxville in securing his services.

PELLA BLADE, Jan. 15, 1878 - The little old brick church on East Main Street, one block east of the square, and used of late years as a schoolhouse, has been sold for \$50 and is being leveled to the ground. It was one of the first churches built in town.

PELLA WEEKLY BLADE, May 28, 1878 - The Pella and Knoxville Public Schools will meet at the Des Moines River next Saturday and have a grand picnic. The place selected is the opposite side of the river from Horn's Ferry.

PELLA WEEKLY BLADE, June 4, 1878 - Something should be done to suppress the shameful use of foul language upon the streets by gangs of school boys while on their way to and from school. The average Fourth Ward boy is in his glory on such occasions.

PELLA WEEKLY BLADE, June 17, 1879 - Who wants to be janitor of our public schools? Don't all speak at once.

PELLA CHRONICLE, October, 1904 - A football game was played Friday between Central's second team and the high school boys (not an official school team). The score was 5 to 0 in favor of Central.

PELLA CHRONICLE, Dec. 8, 1904 - The public is invited to an open house at the new Lincoln School on Lincoln Street between Main Street and Broadway.

PELLA CHRONICLE, Jan. 2, 1905 - Children must be five on or before April 1 in order to enroll in kindergarten.

PELLA CHRONICLE, Feb. 9, 1909 - Chapel talks by seniors have been resumed.

One of the most interesting basketball events of the season took place at the Central College gymnasium on Tuesday afternoon and evening of this week when four teams, Humeston, Murry, Bussey and Pella, participated in a tournament preparatory to the state tournament to be held in Ames in a short time.

Literary Society had a program of music and readings; profits of about \$6 were divided between Boys' Athletic Association and Girls' Gym Club.

PELLA CHRONICLE, Sept. 11, 1909 - School opened Monday with an enrollment of 642. Superintendent is F.M. Frush, Principal is Mamie Zaelke ... Science teacher is W. B. Pietsch.

PELLA CHRONICLE, Oct. 14, 1909 - Notice to Parents: The school law requires all parents who have children between the ages of seven and 14 to send them to school each year for at least 24 consecutive weeks. Some children of school age are not yet attending the public school and the board has fixed November 1 as the final limit when all such children must be started and continue the required time. The city marshall has been appointed truant officer and commencing Nov. 1 will endeavor to enforce this law fully.

PELLA CHRONICLE, Oct. 28, 1909 - The sophomores gave a reception in honor of the freshmen at the home of Mabel Warren. The room was decorated in the freshman colors.

PELLA CHRONICLE, Nov. 11, 1909 - The basketball team went to Monroe, played outdoors, and won by a score of 28 to 16.

PELLA CHRONICLE, Nov. 26, 1909 - Final declamatory contest will decide who will represent Pella in the district contest in dramatic, oratorical and humorous speeches. After the speeches, the basketball team will play Monroe High in the gym.

PELLA CHRONICLE, Sept. 23, 1909 - High School Notes: A total of 95 students are enrolled in the high school ... Girls are trying to organize a gym class and are meeting with good success ... Freshman class is the largest since Professor Frush has been here ... Junior Class gave a moonlight picnic in honor of Ann Vander Linden who moved to Texas ... A new basketball has been purchased, and as soon as the basketball season opens, they will be ready for work.

PELLA CHRONICLE, January, 1914 - Central College has a new steel flagpole; students agreed it would not be used for Flag Fights.

PELLA CHRONICLE, Jan., 1922 - The debate team, coached by Professor Frush, is using the topic "Resolved: The Philippines should have their independence within the next five years."

PELLA CHRONICLE, Feb. 23, 1922 - The seniors thoroughly surprised the entire high school Saturday night when they carried to the stage at the close of the play "Professor Pepp," the senior flag. The juniors were overwhelmed with surprise and made no attempt to fight for the flag.

PELLA CHRONICLE, April 13, 1922 - Peter De Pree, high school janitor, is about the first with tulips this spring. He has two beds of tulips in bloom on the south side of the high school building.

PELLA CHRONICLE, Oct. 30, 1930 - Jennie Harmsen, who taught in the Pella schools from 1902 to 1937, was quoted in a story about the schools:

Jennie Harmsen said that after 28 years of teaching in Pella, she thought Pella had "come to a new day compared to that of the early nineties." She said that in the early days, even following the passage of the compulsory school law, parents did not consider the educating of their children seriously. This became a "kind of second nature" to the children and many would stay home from school for that reason and offer very poor excuses for doing so.

PELLA CHRONICLE, Aug. 14, 1958 - (More than two columns were used to publish the starting points and times for the nine bus routes for the newly-organized Pella Community School District. Names of the farmers who lived at each pickup point and the number of students to be picked up were included in the long list.)

Pella Community Schools 1979-1980

Prepared by Orville Dunkin, Superintendent

School Facilities and Property

The school owns approximately 111 acres of land, located and used as follows:

Middle School building and athletic and physical education areas 55 acres

Farm ground at Middle School site, farmed by High School Future Farmers of America (could be used for an elementary site, if increase in student enrollment in future years would so demand) 15 acres Webster Elementary 3 acres Lincoln Elementary 4 acres Leighton Elementary 8 acres Otley Elementary 6 acres

The building contents (equipment and supplies) are appraised at \$758,000.00.

The following table lists construction cost and current appraised replacement cost for buildings:

Building	Construction Year	Construction Cost	1979 Value
Old Lincoln	1906	\$ 36,000	442,671
Lincoln addition	1961	171,384	
Lincoln addition	1966	91,557	691,745
Webster	1951	223,565	778,287
Otley	1934	(Figure not available)	
Otley	1955	35,000	185,279
Leighton	1961	56,716	143,784
High School	1961	694,807	
HS Art-Ind. Ed	1974	200,000	1,917,240
HS Auditorium	76-77	760,000	973,594
Middle School	77-78	1,872,566	2,314,434
Administ. Bldg.	1969	56,984	122,426
TOTALS		\$4,198,579	\$7,569,460

School Transportation

The school district owns 20 large buses and four vans, used in transportation of students. Fifteen regular bus routes are operated plus five noon-hour kindergarten routes.

In the 1978-79 school year, school vehicles traveled 220,000 miles, and consumed 48,000 gallons of gasoline. Approximately 1,050 pupils have been transported on the regular bus routes.

A 54 or 60-passenger bus cost now exceeds \$20,000. The total value of the school bus fleet exceeds \$160,000.

The gasoline shortage has emerged as a problem in school transportation. There have been times when it was uncertain whether the school district would have enough gas to continue bus operation the next month. School transportation services and extra curricular usage of buses have been reviewed to attempt to determine feasible methods to decrease the consumption of gasoline in school bus transportation.

School Budgets

School budgets are divided into several funds but mainly into a current operating fund called the General Fund, and the Schoolhouse Fund

which receives and spends money to provide for permanent building structures and grounds projects. The general fund estimated expenditures for the 1979-80 school year amount to \$3,123,000. Approximately 60 percent of this amount will go to employee salaries, with about 15 percent going to fringe benefits for employees including social security, state retirement system, and insurance benefits. The remaining 25 percent of the budget expenditures will be used to pay for transportation, expenses for building and grounds, new equipment, and consumable supplies. The receipts for the general fund operation will be \$1,050,000 from state aid, \$1,750,000 from local property tax, with about \$220,000 coming from miscellaneous sources.

The schoolhouse funds will total \$450,000, with \$150,000 used to retire bonded indebtedness, \$150,000 for interest on the school building indebtedness, \$50,000 for site development and improvement, and \$100,000 for building improvement or building construction.

The appraised valuation in the Pella Community School District in the 1979-80 school year is \$193,724,274. The property tax levy to support education is \$10.95 per \$1,000 property value.

Lunch Program

In the 1979-80 school year the school lunch program will be a \$190,000 business. Lunches served daily will exceed 1,000 meals with the total for the year exceeding 200,000 meals. The food served will cost \$90,000, the labor will cost \$80,000, and miscellaneous items will cost \$20,000. The federal government contributes commodities to the food service programs, which will supply 25 to 35 percent of the food products served.

The federal and state governments will provide aid for lunches which should exceed \$70,000. The total cost per meal served will be about 90 cents with the student paying 50 cents in grades K-5 and 55 cents per meal in grades 6-12.

School Staff

In the 1979-80 school year, the school district employs 109 fulltime persons and 56 persons working part time. The fulltime equivalency exceeds 138 persons. The employee force of 165 persons includes: Administration 5; personnel working with students in the classroom programs 102; school nurse 1; secretaries 7; custodial and maintenance 21; lunch program 14; school transportation 16.

School Enrollment

The maximum kindergarten through twelfth grade enrollment attained in the Pella Communi-

ty School District was in September, 1970 when the enrollment totaled 1,596 pupils. The enrollment declined to 1,542 pupils in September, 1975. An upward trend developed from 1975 to 1977 when 1,580 pupils were enrolled. A succeeding downward trend then developed which caused the enrollment to decrease to 1,562 pupils in 1978 and to 1,510 pupils in 1979. Projections indicate that enrollment will again increase in 1980 to 1,540 students, then decrease to approximately 1,500 students.

The enrollment should remain stable at the 1,500 pupil level, unless the City of Pella and surrounding area continues to increase in population as has been projected. It is important to notice that the total decrease in enrollment has been only six percent, which is a minimal decrease when compared to many schools whose enrollments have decreased 30 to 50 percent in that time span. While school age population has been decreasing across the country and in Iowa, there has been enough additional growth in population in Pella to offset the normal decrease occurring in other schools (to offset all except the six percent decline). In the last twenty years the birthrate has dropped from 25 to 13 per 1,000 people.

In recent years approximately 26 percent of the resident school age pupils in the district have attended three private schools in the district: Peoria Christian Grade School, Pella Christian Grade School and Pella Christian High School. In 1979-80, 550 resident pupils are attending those schools, and that number combined with 1,510 enrollment in the Pella Community School District indicates that 2,060 school age pupils live in the district in the 1979-80 school year.

The Middle School Today, 1980

By Don Roehr, Middle School Principal.

During the late 1960's and the early 1970's educators across the country recognized that the special needs of the eleven to fourteen-year-old children were not being met by the nation's schools. As a result of this recognition, the middle schools began to emerge.

The middle schools of today are based on the following considerations:

1. To provide a smooth transition between the elementary self-contained classroom and the departmentalized high school.
2. To provide a flexible program so the needs of each individual can be met.
3. To provide instruction based on the learner rather than the subject material.
4. To provide opportunities for students to ex-

plore.

5. To provide a basic education to all students.
6. To provide guidance.
7. To remove as many pressures as possible.
8. To be aware of the many differences and changes taking place in the student population.

We in Pella built our education program around the above items. All students in grades six through eight have five basic subjects plus physical education. The five basic subjects are Reading, Mathematics, Social Studies, English and Science. In addition to these, students at all grade levels have the opportunity to take the following exploratory courses; General Music, Industrial Arts, Home Economics, Art, Spanish, Instrumental Music and Vocal Music. Eighth grade students may also take Mechanical Drawing. Our athletic program provides the opportunity for students to become involved in football, wrestling, basketball and track.

The Middle School schedule begins with a ten-minute homeroom which is designed to provide a home base for the students. This is followed by eight class periods — five periods for the basic academic subjects and three periods for exploratory subjects and supervised study.

School Employees, 1979-1980

Administrators

Dr. Orville Dunkin, superintendent
Merlyn Vander Leest, elementary supervisor;
Lincoln School principal
C. Rex Steddom, Webster School principal
Donald Roehr, Middle School principal
Omer Troyer, High School principal

Teachers

A list of everyone who has taught in the Pella public schools begins on page 58. An asterisk (*) marks the names of those who are teaching this school year.

Teacher Aides

Herma Cowell
Mary Glendening
Mildred Meyer
June Van Haaften
Jackie Van Wyk
Johnita Van Wyk

PHS Publications

Emma Lou Heusinkveld

Secretaries

Mary Bogaards
Ethel De Bruin
Gail Huerter

Ella Kool

Mary Mattson
Betty Vander Waal
Barbara Vander Werff
Etta Vermeer
Vivian Whitney

Lunchroom Workers

Carolyn Klein, program manager
Wilmena Branderhorst
Marilyn Fox
Ina Kane
Donna Meulpolder
Thelma Mitchell
Norma Nunnikhoven
Betty Pol
Joyce Rempé
Evelyn Rouw
Genevieve Sneller
Florence Swank
Matilda Van Zee
Betty Vriezelaar

Maintenance and Custodians

Jerry Byers, supervisor
Orlan Crawford
Erma Denburger
Ray Dieleman
Dale Kane
Carol Killoren
Max Killoren
Jay McDaniel
Lawrence Nation
Clarence Rempe
Gerald Rempe
Robert Stice
Simon Van Dusseldorf
Gert Van Dyk
Gregg Van Vark
Annette Van Wyk
Simon Verhoef
Linda Wilson

Bus Drivers

Elmer Van Waardhuizen, supervisor
Donald Blom
Jack Carey
Cheryl De Heer
Gary Heyveld
Mae Heyveld
Loren Jones
Elmer Kool
Dale Roozeboom
Linda Tuinstra
Mark Vander Meiden
Elmer Vander Waal
Ruby Vander Wilt
Shirley Van Hemert
Marion Van Wyk
Tunnet Van Wyk

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Anthony, Fred	Hettinga, Leonora Gaass	Troyer, Omer
Baker, Donald	Hirrschoff, Jerry	Tysseling, Richard (Babe)
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Barnes, Edna	Horman, Lyle	Vander Hart, Agnes
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Duchess Files	Rempe, Wilma	Vogelaar, Ferdinand
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